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CARDIGAN PRIORY IN THE OLDEN DAYS

OLWEN POWYS

A. HAMILTON,
SHIPPING AGENT,
PATRICK STREET, STRABANE.

CARDIGAN PRIORY IN THE OLDEN DAYS

The Priory and Chancel (dating from the reign of Henry VI) of the Priory Church of St. Mary as it stands at the present day

CARDIGAN PRIORY IN THE OLDEN DAYS

BY

EMILY M. PRITCHARD
(GWEN PRYS)

ILLUSTRATED

LONDON
WILLIAM HEINEMANN
1904

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PREFACE

ON the occasion of the visitation of the Cambrian Archæological Society to Cardigan, in August 1904, I was asked to read a paper on the Priory of Cardigan before the Society. In searching for information thereon I came on so much that was interesting, and that would have taken far too long to read during the time limit allowed for the paper, that I was asked to publish it, that those who are interested in such things may also read them. I owe, first of all, thanks to the Rev. D. H. Davies, Vicar of Verwig and Mount, for to him I owe the first knowledge of the grants of James I.'s reign, at the Record Office; then I know not whether I owe him thanks or the reverse for the following, as the result has been a long and laborious search, and the burning of much midnight oil; it

was Mr. Davies who first, by his gentle persuasions, prevailed on me, against my inclinations, to undertake the Paper, read before the Cambrian Archæological Society, and further by his genial "go on" urged me on to still further search. I owe also many thanks to Mr. John Vincent, of 61, Lincoln's Inn Fields, for his skill in deciphering almost illegible MSS. for me, both at the Record Office and at the British Museum, and for his prompt attention and ready courtesy in sending me copies thereof.

Also I owe many thanks to Miss James, late of Tenby and Pantsaeson, for her able assistance in searching old MSS. and books for me at the British Museum when I was endeavouring to trace the life of St. Mathaiarn; also to Mr. Ballinger, librarian of the Cardiff Free Library, for the excellent help he has given me in unearthing the "History and Cartulary of the Monastery of St. Peter's of Gloucester," by Wm. Henry Hart, as I had already been to Gloucester Cathedral in the expectation of finding information I thought might be in the muniments there. Also to Mr. John Randolph, of 128, Alexandra Road, Wimbledon; D. Rees, Ph.D. Leipzig, Belmont, Cardigan; to the Corporation of Cardigan for the

loan of the old Corporation Book, and to Mr. Morgan Jones, our able Town Clerk of Cardigan, for his kindly help on various occasions. I wish also gratefully to acknowledge my indebtedness to Canon Bazeley, Rector of Matson, Gloucester, and Honorary General Secretary of the Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society, for his kindness in searching for me the muniments of Gloucester Cathedral.

The photographs are by Desmond, photographer, Cardigan.

EMILY M. PRITCHARD
(OLWEN POWYS).

The Priory,
Cardigan,
October 25, 1904.

LIST OF OWN BOOKS

ALL SEARCHED AND SOME QUOTED
BY THE AUTHOR

"Archaeologia Cambrensis."
Bede's "Ecclesiastical History."
Bosworth's "Antiquities."
Bradley's "Highways and Byeways of S. Wales."
Brut Ieuan Brechfa.
Brut y Tywysogion.
Brut y Tysylio.
Cambrian Journal.
Cambrian Register.
Camden's "Britannia" (Gough's Edition).
Carlisle's "Topographical Dictionary of the Dominion of Wales."
Enderbie's "Cambria Triumphans."
Evan's "Cardiganshire."
Evan's "Popular History of the Ancient Britons."
Fenton's "Pembrokeshire."
"Florence of Worcester."
"Giraldus Cambrensis" (Hoare's Edition).

Horsfall Turner's "Walks in Cardiganshire."
"Iolo MSS."
Jones' "Brecknockshire."
Leland's "Itinerary."
Lhoyd's "Historie of Cambria."
"Matthew of Westminster."
Meyrick's "History of Cardiganshire."
Montalembert's "Monks of the West."
"Myvyrian Archæology."
Newell's "History of the Welsh Church."
Notes and Queries (two numbers).
Orinda's "Letters."
Orinda's "Poems."
Owen's "Pembrokeshire."
Powell's "History of Wales."
Powys Fadog.
Roberts' "Chronicles of the Kings of Britain."
"Roger de Hovenden."
"Roger of Wendover."
Six "Old English Chronicles."
Skene, "Four Ancient Books of Wales."
Stephen's "Welshmen."
Taunton's "English Monks of the West."
Warrington's "Cambria Triumphans."
Warrington's "History of Wales."
Weldon's "Chronological Notes of the English Monks of the Order of St. Benedict."

" William of Malmesbury."
Williams' "Parlimentary History of the Welsh Principality."
Willis Bund's " Celtic Church of Wales."
Woodward's " History of Wales."

Besides these, have searched myself:

In Cheltenham Free Library.

Malkin's " Scenery Antiquities " and " Biographies of S. Wales."

Dugdale's " Monasticon " for Cardigan, Chertsey, Caldey Island, Pulla, and St. Dogmaels, An Archæological Book in seven Volumes on England and Wales,
And several other volumes of tours in South Wales.

And in Cardigan the old Book belonging to the Corporation,

Also Rees Cambro's " British Saints," and " Welsh Saints."

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CHAPTER I

A.D. 450

THE earliest mention to be found, as regards religion in Cardigan, is the settlement there of St. Mathaiarn,* son of Brychan, son of an Irishman named Aulach, the son of Cormac, sometimes called Rullech Goronog (the Crown Wearing), King of Ireland, Brychan's mother being† Marcella (or Marchell), only daughter‡ of Teudrig, King of Garth Madryn (now called Brecknock).§ Brychan's three wives,‖ according to an ancient MS. copied about the year 1670, by Thomas Evan, of the Brynn, in the parish of Llangrallo, were, first, Brawst; second, Rhybrawst; third, Eurbrawst; but according

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* *Vide* "Brecknockshire," by Theophilus Jones, p. 30.

† *Ibid.*, Marchell, only daughter of Teudrig, King of Garth Madryn. Arms, Or three bats azure, beaked and clawed gules.

‡ A MS. of the year 900 states that Marchell, Teudrig's daughter, went to Ireland, and married Aulech, the King of Ireland, and later returned to Wales with her son Brychan.

§ Iolo MS., p. 510. ‖ Iolo MS., p. 514.

to the Truman MS. his wives were Rhybrawst, Eurbrawst, and Prosori, the latter and third wife coming from Spain. St. Mathaiarn settled in Cardigan in the middle of the fifth century; his sister, Meleri, or Eleri, who was also sometimes called Helen, married Ceredig, son of Cunedda Wledig (Wledig signifying Emperor, or Overlord), and was mother of Sandde, the father of Saint David. From Ceredig we obtain the name of Cardigan. Ceredig and Meleri also had a son, Ithael, whose son, Dogfael, became a saint, and living on the south bank of the River Teify, one mile west of Cardigan, gave his name to the present village of Saint Dogmaels. Ceredig* took delight in civil war, and was hated by God and the Britons; he was driven by Gormandus west of the Severn, and settled in Cambria, and became the founder of Cardigan† expelling the foreigner from the country of Tyno Goch, and giving the name of Ceredigion to the cantref. The second son of Brychan, Cyvlewyr,‡ was slain by the Saxons in Ceredigion, and buried there. In all probability St. Mathaiarn settled in Cardigan to be near his sister; and established, according to the custom of those days in Wales, a religious house there. In many old MSS. and also in the Myvyrian Archaeology,

* *Vide* Cotton MSS. Iolo MS. p. 222.

† Iolo MS., p. 518.

‡ Iolo MS., p. 518, and "Myvyrian Archaeology," p. 427.

the Iolo MS., &c., we find that he died, and was buried in Cardigan, so that, in all probability, the old religious house of St. Mathaiarn stood on the same ground on which the later Priory of the Benedictines was built, the monks in olden times generally selecting these ancient British Religious Houses for their Abbeys and Priories.

That Brychan was well known outside this little island is gathered from "Bonedd y Saint Neu Achau Saint Ynis Prydain," which mentions, among fourteen of his sons and daughters who entered religion :—

Arthen, buried in the Isle of Man, and who, according to Truman's MS. had a Church dedicated to him in Gwentllwyg, which was afterwards demolished by the Pagan Saxons ;

Rhain was a saint who lived in Lincolnshire, and had a Church dedicated to him in the Isle of Man ;

Dygnan, buried at Llandfynan, in Anglesea. The account of this son varies slightly in the Iolo MS. his Church is there stated to be in Anglesea, but that he lies buried in Ireland ;

Cadawc, in France, the Iolo MS. give more as to Cadawc or Cadoc, adding that he had a Church in Llangadog, in Ystrad Towy (vale of Towy), that he was made Bishop by Dyvig his brother, and went to France, where he lies buried ;

Gerwyn, or Berwyn, was slain in Ynis Gerwyn. His Church is in Cornwall ;

Pascen went to Spain with his two brothers, Neffei and Pabiali, the sons of Brychan, by his third wife, Prosori, who came from Spain, and Neffei and Pabiali there became legislators ("pennrhaithau"), all three were afterwards enrolled among the saints of Spain.

(An ancient tombstone in Twyn Church, in Merioneddshire, is inscribed PASC$_{\text{H}}$NT.)

Dyvid was Confessor to Germanus, the son of Rigidius, and was principal of his College in Llancarvan, and afterwards Bishop of Llandaff. His mother was Eurbrawst, daughter of Meryvig, son of Teudrig, King of Garth Madryn;

Nevydd, his church is Llannevydd, in the uplands of Rhyvoniog, N. Wales; afterwards he was a Bishop of North Britain, where he was slain by the pagan Saxons and the Picts.

Keyma and Nennoe, daughters of Brychan, were also both saints, their lives are most fully recorded, and are very interesting. St. Keyma was a nun at the place now called Keynsham, in Somersetshire, later on she returned to Abergavenny, in South Wales, and died there. St. Nennoe,* the youngest

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* *Vide* Albert le Grand (a Breton Dominican Monk), "Life of St. Nennoe," 1616.

daughter of Brychan, and probably also of Proseri, with some difficulty obtained the consent of her parents, and crossed to Brittany, accompanied by her godparents, and other people. The King Guerch, of Brittany, gave her lands, and ample provision of wheat, wine and animals, for the large convent she founded in his dominions. The Charter is dated 548, and is copied in Latin and French by Albert le Grand, who wrote in 1616, and gathered all his information for the life of St. Nennoe from the archives of the Abbaye of Sainte Croix de Kemper-Elle (Quimperle, France.) St. Nennoe died in 467, during the reign of Hoël the Great. The place where she lived was called Landt Nennok, Plouemeur. Brychan also had a daughter,* Mechell. She was the first wife of Gynyr, of Caer-Gawch, and the mother of Nonn, the mother of St. David.

From this one sees that the family of Brychan were of repute, and known in England, Wales, Ireland, the Isle of Man, France, and Spain ; therefore St. Mathaiarn would, in all probability, be a well known man, and his religious house at Cardigan would also be well known ; and though at this distance of time one cannot pierce the veil of the past as to the exact site of St. Mathaiarn's religious house, probability points strongly to its site being

* Iolo MS., p. 519.

one with that of the Benedictine Monastery of later years.

Now, alas! owing to the terrible destruction of archives and MSS. owing to negligence, ignorance, and fire, many hundreds of years pass before any mention of this Priory is found.

CHAPTER II

A.D. 1066–1164

SO far the founder* and the date of the foundation,* remain behind the veil, as both its annals, and most of those of its parent, Chertsey, appear to have been destroyed in the time of Henry VIII.

Chertsey Abbey, to which Cardigan Priory was a Cell, was founded by St. Erconwald in 660, but was afterwards rebuilt, and granted by King Edgar in 964 to the Black Monks of St. Benedict; they possessed great wealth, owning twenty-five manors and lands in Surrey, Hants, Berks, and Cardiganshire,

The first date we have of the existence of this Priory is in 1164,*—when Rhys ap Gryffydd, Prince of South Wales, conquered Cardigan, and brought it again under Welsh rule, and by a grant confirmed the gift of the then existing Priory Cell of Cardigan to the Black Monks of St. Benedict, of the Abbey of Chertsey. This limits the date of its foundation to

* See Addendum to Chapter II.

before 1164. It is a well known fact that monks were the reverse of popular among the Welsh; therefore, it would be most unlikely for this Priory to have been founded by any of the early Welsh Princes.

The ancient windows of this Priory, of which seven are still in existence, point to a period between 1066 and 1125

The date of the first advent of the Normans into Cardiganshire was, as history tells us, in 1070–72, when they, owing to the treachery of Caradawg,* ravaged Ceredigion and Dyved (the present Pembrokeshire). In 1073 Rhydderch ap Caradawg appears to have been victorious, and to have acquired the sovereignty of South Wales. The years following this were spent in the most unhappy civil warfare in South Wales, till in 1077 Rhys ap Tewdwr established himself as Prince of South Wales, until his death in 1090, when, at the advanced age of ninety-eight† he was killed fighting against the Normans, near the Black Mountains in Breconshire.

Meanwhile, in 1087 or 1088, Marteine de Tours‡ as he is called, or Martinus Turonensis, landed at Fishguard, advanced through Pembrokeshire with his forces, conquering as he advanced, till finally the

* *Vide* Woodward's "History of Wales," vol. i. p. 232.

† Jones' "Brecknockshire."

‡ Fenton's "Pembrokeshire."

Welsh, instead of making an united stand, yielded to him one village after another, preferring to make peace with him, than to stand alone against him; until he came to St. Dogmaels, on the banks of the River Teify, one mile west of Cardigan, on the opposite bank, where his son,* Roger Fitz-Martin, carried out a plan of his father's, and built the Abbey of St. Dogmaels, two miles from the site of an old monastery, which had been pillaged by the Danes in 987, during one of their raids. Bernard,† Bishop of St. David's, who died 1141, was a witness to the deed of this foundation of the Abbey, by Robert Fitz-Martin. Some old writers place Martin's death in 1089, if this is correct he probably had no time to build an Abbey. He built Nevern Castle, and this would probably be his first‡ work. Robert Fitz-Martin afterwards endowed this Abbey of St. Dogmaels, giving it to the Benedictines, and sending to the Abbey of Thiron-Gardais (founded, 1109) near Nogent le Rotrou, Eure et Loire, France, for the first Abbot, named Fulchardus. These monks of the order of Thiron, or Tironensis, were reformed Benedictines. There has been much dispute as to which of the four "Tours" in France Martin belonged—Tours, near Bayeux, and Tours in Turraine

* *Vide* Owen's "Pembrokeshire," Preface, vol. i. p. ix. note 2.

† *Vide* Meyrick's "Cardiganshire," p. xxix.

‡ And perchance his only building.

claiming the most adherents. Is it not likely this doubt has arisen from mis-spelling in the first instance? Martinus Turonensis being very slightly different from Martinus Tironensis, and the writing of an "u" for an "i" an easy slip to make in those days of indifferent spelling. Added to this the fact that when the Abbey of St. Dogmaels was finished, Martin's son sent to Tiron for the first Abbot; might not Tiron have been, perchance, his father's old home? Also this Tiron was on the borders of Normandy. The people of Cardigan probably were more or less friendly to Martin's followers, as one finds Robert Fitz-Martin's son married to Angharad, daughter of Rhys ap Gryffydd, it might have been from motives of policy, that it was better to have the Martins for friends than for enemies. Apparently Cardigan itself remained in the hands of the Welsh till 1092, when the Normans landed in Cardiganshire, and began to fortify themselves in castles and other strong places, and to inhabit the country upon the sea shore; and one finds Roger Montgomery, Earl of Arundel, did homage to King William II. of England, for the Lordships of Powys and Cardigan, though one finds no trace of his ever having lived in Cardigan; he was slain by the Welsh in 1094. In 1093 the Welsh rose under the command of Gryffydd ap Conan, Prince of North Wales, and Cadwgan ap Bleddyn, Prince of Powys,

and defeated the Normans.* Cadwgan marched triumphantly through Cardiganshire, destroying all the castles and fortifications erected by the Normans, and from this date Cardigan town and Castle remained for some years in the hands of the Welsh. In 1094 or 1097, old histories vary as to this date, Cadwgan, having rebuilt the Castle on a greatly extended scale, took up his residence there;† and in 1107, after vast preparations, and invitations having been sent throughout Great Britain, and the greater part of Europe, nearly a year in advance, Cadwgan gave an enormous banquet and festival, lasting the greater part of the Christmas Holidays. Malkin states‡ that in the year 1093, Cadwgan ap Blethin, indignant at the intrusion of the Normans, with the assistance of Gruffyth ap Conan, fell desperately on the new settlers, routed their forces in several engagements, and dismantled all the castles they had built, except two. But they were not uniformly successful, and were at length obliged to make peace, and accede to the claims of the invaders, by relinquishing a part of their own inheritances. In this new arrangement, the town and Castle of Cardigan

* *Vide* Warrington's "History of Wales," p. 261.

† *Vide* Powell's "History of Wales," Meyrick, Woodward, Malkin, &c. &c.

‡ Malkin (Benj. Heath, 1804), "Scenery, Antiquities, and Biographies of South Wales," pp. 408–409.

remained with Cadwgan ap Blethin. The foundation of this Castle is generally attributed to Gilbert de Clare, in the reign of Henry the Second. He probably rebuilt it; but it appears clearly from these documents that there had been a fortress here for at least seventy years preceding; nor is it likely that the Normans on their first landing would have neglected an important station near the sea, so necessary to their safety, whether they maintained themselves in the country, or were compelled to retire. This Castle has been richly distinguished in the annals of the bards. It was here that Rees ap Gruffyth held that pompous celebration of the Stethra,* mentioned in the first chapter. Nor was this the only instance. So long before as the Christmas of 1107, Cadwgan ap Blethin instituted a similar festival, of which some account will be given hereafter, before this period, when the Castle is alleged to have been built. The entertainment did not yield in splendour to that of Rees ap Gruffyth; and that consequently this palace and fortress must even then have possessed considerable extent and accommodation, as well as strength, and its owner have attained no mean degree of courtly and political importance. It does not appear why Gilbert de Clare should, at this distance of time, be denominated the founder, since there not only was

* Eisteddfod.

an earlier Castle, but the present remains are of a more modern date than Cadwgan, Gilbert, or Rees ap Gruffyth. In the year 1220, we read that "Lhewelin ap Jorwerth levelled the Castle of Abertivy, or Cardigan, to the ground."

In the year 1107 Gilbert Strongbow, Earl of Strigull, received a grant of all the lands of Cardigan from Henry I., if he could conquer them; he evidently partly achieved this, as he built two Castles, one at Llanbadern, on the Ystwith, and the other at Cilgerran (in Pembrokeshire) on the River Teify. Cadwgan, however, appears to have retained possession of Cardigan till between 1108 and 1112, when one finds Cardigan also in the possession of Gilbert Strongbow,* Earl of Clare and Strigull till his death in 1114.† In 1135 Gryffydd ap Rhys ap Teudwr, who claimed to be lord of Cardigan, attacked Stephen, Governor of Cardigan Castle, but was not successful in his attempt to capture it. From 1135 to 1157 one finds the Normans and

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* *Vide* Humphrey Lhoyd's "Historie of Cambria," 1584, p. 138. This year, 1135, Richard and Gilbert (de Clare) his son were slain by Morgan ap Owen.

† The Brut y Tywysogion states that he died in 1114 "of a long languishment and illness." Various other old documents also place Gilbert's death at 1114. The Brut y Tywysogion also states that Cadwgan's death took place before a certain event, which occurred in 1109.—E. M. P.

Flemings conjointly in possession, when it was granted to Roger de Clare, son of Gilbert, by the King, if he could win it. Gilbert Strongbow resided, chiefly, at Cardiff Castle,* and made a Norman, named Stephen, Governor of Cardigan, who was succeeded in the Governorship, on his death, by his son, Robert Fitz-Stephen.† Roger de Clare held it from 1157 to 1164, when all Cardigan was recovered from him by Rhys ap Gryffydd.

By this one sees that the only Normans who had any rights over Cardigan were Robert Montgomery, for under two years, though there is no record of his ever having lived there; and Gilbert de Clare, till 1135; and Roger de Clare, 1157 to 1164, their Castellans being Stephen and his son. This limits the number of likely founders to Martinus Tironensis, or his son, who, one sees, were connected with the Benedictines, and Gilbert de Clare, or his Castellan, Stephen. If either of the two latter then the foundation must have been between 1108 to 1112 and 1125.

---

* And at Llanbadarn Castle. He built both Castles.

† Who had married Nest, the widow of Gerald de Windsor.

CARDIGAN, In British Aber Teivi from its Situation on a River of that Name which produceth excellent Salmon, & divides this County from those of Pembroke & Carmarthen, Here Gilbert de Clare about 1110 built a Castle, which was afterwards destroyd by Rhys ap Gryffyth, It is placed on y Steep Bank of y fore Mentioñd River. Here was also a Priory of Black Monks dedicated to S.t Mary and subordinate to y Abby of Chertsey in Surry, of y Clear Yearly Value of £5 5 9

Sam.l & Nath.l Buck delin. et sculp. Published according to Act of Parliament March 25. 1741

The Ad buildings of the Benedictine Priory extended to the Castle wall, some of which are still standing

ADDENDUM [illegible] CHAPTER II

[illegible]

[illegible] of Chapter II. fresh material [illegible] Cardiff Central Free Library [illegible] Cartulary of the Monastery of [illegible]" by Wm. Henry Hart. [illegible] the grant of Llanbadarn and Holy Cardigan to the Abbey of Gloucester [illegible] Clare.* The date assigned by Mr. Hart [illegible] is 1115-1147, but in the "Calendar

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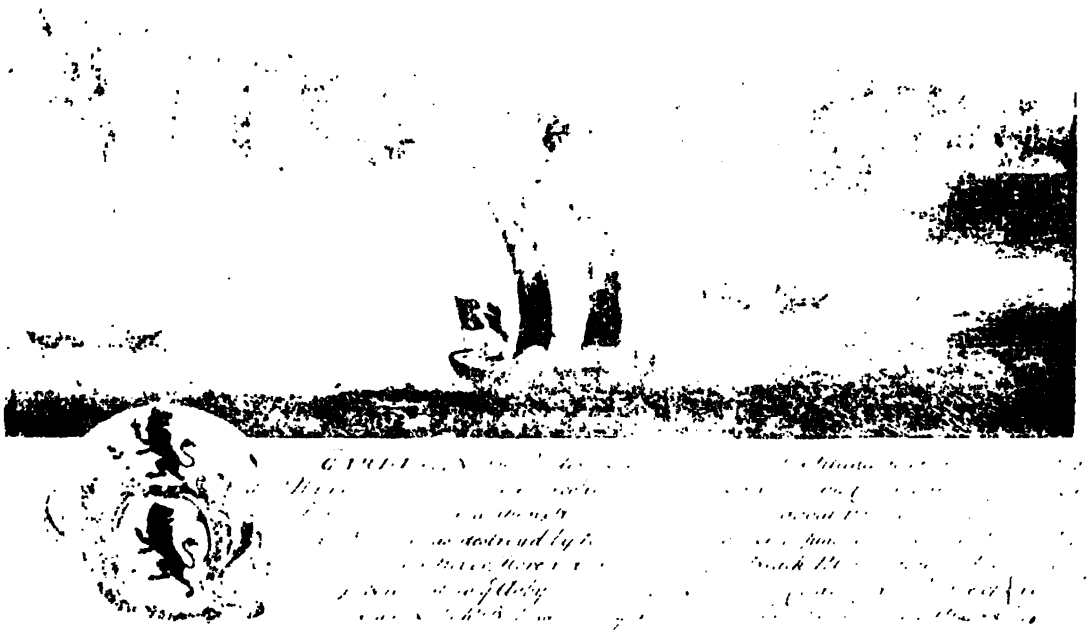
[illegible] states that Gilbert de Clare died in [illegible], therefore his grant of Llanbadarn and [illegible] Abbey of Gloucester must have been before [illegible] about 1111, as stated in the footnote to [illegible] Chronicle."

[illegible] that William (? Gilbert) de Clare died of [illegible] 1116.

[illegible] connections Cadwgan's murder by his [illegible] 1107 and before a certain [illegible]

[illegible] gives an interesting account of [illegible] all the Churches and Monas[illegible] and Ceredigion (Cardigan).

[illegible] that Bernard was Bishop of St. Davids in



ADDENDUM TO CHAPTER II

A.D. 1111–1175

SINCE the writing of Chapter II. fresh material has come to hand at Cardiff Central Free Library in the "History and Cartulary of the Monastery of St. Peter's of Gloucester" by Wm. Henry Hart. In this one finds the grant of Llanbadarn and Holy Trinity of Cardigan to the Abbey of Gloucester by Gilbert de Clare.* The date assigned by Mr. Hart to this charter is 1115–1147, but in the "Calendar

---

* The Brut-y-Tywysogion states that Gilbert de Clare died in 1114 of a lingering illness, therefore his grant of Llanbadarn and Cardigan Priories to the Abbey of Gloucester must have been before that date, and probably about 1111, as stated in the footnote to Hart's "Hist. et Cart. Gloucestriae."

In another Brut I find that William (? Gilbert) de Clare died of a lingering consumption in 1116.

Also the Brut-y-Tywysogion mentions Cadwgan's murder by his nephew Madoc occurred after 1107 and before a certain event which took place in 1109.

The Brut Ievan Brechfa gives an interesting account of how the Saxons in 860 broke down all the Churches and Monasteries in Gwent, Gower, Demetia and Ceredigion (Cardigan).

This Brut also states that Bernard was Bishop of St. Davids in 1112.—E. M. P.

of Donations" this grant is stated to have been made in 1111. This latter date is more probably correct, as Gilbert de Clare built both the Castles of Llanbadarn and Cilgerran in 1107,* and would probably establish Llanbadarn Priory on the completion of Llanbadarn Castle, or soon after (by 1111). As Prince Cadwgan died between 1108 and 1109, Gilbert de Clare probably built the Priory of Cardigan about the same time; also later on one finds a grant of King Henry, confirming this gift of Llanbadarn and Cardigan to Gloucester, with the same date (1115 to 1147). Now Henry I. died in 1135, and Henry II. did not begin to reign till 1154, therefore it must have been Henry I. who confirmed this gift, and prior to 1135. Gilbert de Clare† also died, according to the Bruts, in 1114, therefore this grant must have been previous to 1114.

We already know that Rhys ap Gryffyth conquered Cardigan in 1164, the then existing Priory, the Castle, and the town, and drove out the followers

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* According to some old historians, Cardigan was granted to him by the King at that date, and the Castles were built the same year.

† *Vide* Woodward's "History of Wales," vol. i. p. 262. Richard FitzGilbert, Earl of Clare, was killed, April 1136, with nearly all his train by the Welsh. Warrington's "History of Wales," p. 291, gives 1135 for Richard's murder. Humphrey Lhoyd's "Historie of Cambria," 1584, p. 138, states that "Richard and Gilbert (de Clare) his sonne were slain by the Welsh, 1135."

of the de Clares. Apparently he sent away the Gloucester monks then holding the Priory, probably fearing they would plot for the return of the de Clares, their founders, if he allowed them to remain. In the adjudication of David Bishop of St. David's 1175, on the case of the Llanbadarn dispute, it is mentioned of the Church of Llanbadarn that, "in the unsettled state of the time certain people took it from them (the Abbot and monks of Gloucester) and having taken it, *for some length of time* unjustly retained," &c. This undoubtedly refers to the conquest of Rhys ap Gryffydd in 1164.

Probably in 1164 or near that time

The next one learns is that Rhys had granted this existing Priory Cell to Chertsey, and not content with taking away this Priory Cell from Gloucester, and giving it to Chertsey, he even changed its patron Saint, for whereas in the de Clares' time it was dedicated to the Trinity, Rhys now dedicates it to St. Mary, why we know not. It certainly was not through antipathy to the de Clares, as later we find him dining in England, seated between Roger de Clare (Gilbert's brother) and his son, and on being joked on the subject of his holding the estates of those sitting next him at the table, the de Clares replied that as they could not hold Cardigan, they were glad Rhys had it, as he was a right good fellow.

Giraldus Cambrensis states that in the time of Henry I., when the English power was strong throughout Wales, the Benedictine Abbey of St. Peter's Gloucester quietly possessed it, and Dr. David Powell* in his note upon this chapter says that Gilbert de Clare (son of Richard, who died 1091) when he had conquered the district of Cardigan† gave and granted Llanbadarn and all its tithes and other ecclesiastical emoluments to St. Peter's Gloucester, and that the Abbey held them peacefully for about 26‡ years. (Cardigan Priory was also granted with Llanbadarn.)

"History and Cartulary of the Monastery of St. Peter of Gloucester," Vol. II., ed. by Wm. Hart.

Pub. under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, 1865.

Par. 547 concerning Llanbadarn.

Translation. A.D. 1115 1147

Let all§ know to whom the present charter comes that I Gilbert son of Richard for the safety of the

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* I am indebted for this note of Dr. Powell's to Mr. John Stuart Corbett, solicitor, Bute Estate Office, Cardiff. My edition of "Giraldus Cambrensis," being *Hoare's*, has not this note.—E. M. P.

† "Ceretica regio."

‡ Must have been longer than twenty-six years, probably fifty-three years.

Gilbert died 1114

§ The period to which I have assigned this charter (A.D. 1115–1147) is that of Bernard, Bishop of St. David's, the only witness specified; but in the "Calendar of Donations" (*ante*, vol. i. p. 106) this grant is said to have been made in the year 1111.

soul of my lord King Henry of my soul and of the souls of my parents have given and firmly granted and by this my present Charter have confirmed to God and the Monastery of the Blessed Peter of Gloucester to construct a Priory at Llanbadarn in South Wales the Church of St. Peter and all things which appertain thereto between the boundaries of the sea and of the two waters* as we have surveyed them and in addition a half of the great fishing with other fisheries waters mills meadows and pastures underwoods and woods and all other things appertaining to the said Church for an absolute and perpetual Alms in such a way that certain Alms can be better and more freely given or held Retaining nothing for myself or my successors except only prayers on the part of the monks serving God in the said Priory. I grant also all the tithes of all the Chapels belonging to Llanbadarn and also the offerings which are offered at the altar of my chapel in my castle.† Without therefore any dues or demand let the Prior and the monks of Llanbadarn possess in perpetuity the land which is between the Radian‡ and Clarach from the sea to the moat of Llanbadarn and so back by the land which is called the land of Wymond from St. Audoenus§ as far as Clarach and

Of St. Paternus

* The rivers Rheidol and Clarach.
† Llanbadarn Castle, built by Gilbert de Clare, 1107.
‡ Rheidol. § ? St. Owen.

all the water which is between me and the said Monks for fishing.

I give also to the same the Church of Cardigan * with all its appurtenances.

All these grants I and my successors shall ever defend against all people my seal being set to this my charter.

Witnesses are the Lord Bernard, Bishop of St. Davids.†

Par. 548 of the same

Richard son of Gilbert to all his men, Normans, English and Welsh greeting.

Let it be known unto you that I have granted to God and to St. Peter and to the monks of Gloucester for the salvation of my soul and the souls of my predecessors all things which my father Gilbert gave to them to be held in perpetuity free and undisturbed and exempt from all service and dues That is to say the Church of Llanbadarn and all things which appertain to it namely the land which is between Radian and Clarach from the sea to the moat of Llanbadarn and so down along the land which I have given to Wymond of or from St. Audoenus as far as Clarach and all the water which is between me and them for fishing and the tithes of my pos-

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* After this word there is a slight erasure in the MS.

† This clause is obviously incomplete.

session of all things which pertain to my castle of Llanbadarn namely of yearly hunting of swine of calves of lambs of fishes of cheeses of wool of meal of pannage* and the chapel of that Castle with the things which pertain to it and the land in the aforesaid Castle to form its own hospice. And in addition I have given to them for the Soul of my father &c. &c. my share of the meal which they have ground above the River Rheidol and the Hospice with the garden in Ystradmeurig.†

Of this donation witnesses are Robert chaplain.

Par. 549 of the same.

Let all present and future know that I Richard son of Gilbert grant and confirm the grant which Robert of Bardevilla made to God and St. Peter of Gloucester and to the monks of St. Peter in perpetuity concerning the exclusive confirmation of his mill of Clarach above his own land on this agreement that the aforesaid monks grant to him friendship and prayers and the benefits of their Church and out of their temporalities grant him ten shillings and as his own due the right to grind in such a way that he is to expect nothing but his own yearly produce from the

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* Pasnagium (pannage, or mast of beech or acorns) also stands for the money taken for the food of hogs by the agistors of the lord of the manor in whose woods the beech-mast or acorns are found.

† "Strata florida."

monks whatsoever may have been in the Castle of Ystradmeurig on the day of the beheading of St. John the Baptist Witness whereof.

Par. 550 of the same.

R(ichard) son of G(ilbert) to all his barons and servants French born English and Welsh greeting.

I desire and surely order that the monks of St. Padarn*
f. 138 B. are to hold their lands and woods and waters free and undisturbed well and in peace and without calumny And let no one be so daring as to enter those woods to cut them or to take anything without their permission neither with dogs nor with nets I strongly forbid under pain of forfeit Farewell.

Par. 551 of the same.

It is decided in the presence of the Lord Richard son of Gilbert that John of Lecche is to come at the four feasts of the year to Llanbadarn his mother Church.

And John is to have the third part as well of the oblation of his parishioners as of the burial fees and he himself and his clergy will be provided for on that day. And the monks are to have a third part of the tithe from John's parishioners. And after John's death the monks are to have the Chapel and all things which John held in his lifetime as was decided and confirmed in the presence of Bishop

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* Llanbadarn.

Bernard of St. Davids and Richard son of Gilbert, and other good men at the dedication of the Church of Llanbadarn.

Par. 552 of the same.

Henry King of England, and Duke of Normandy, and Aquitaine, Count of Anjou, to the venerable Bernard Bishop of St. David's and to all his faithful subjects, French English and Welsh, of South Wales, greeting Know ye that I have granted and by this my Charter surely confirmed, to the monks of Gloucester the Priory of Llanbadarn, with the same church of and with all things which appertain thereto, that is to say, with the chapels and the tithes, mills, fisheries, underwoods and woods; and the Church of the Holy Trinity of Cardigan with all things which appertain thereto, according to what the charters of Gilbert son of Richard, and Richard son of Gilbert contain. Accordingly I firmly order that no one molest the said monks, under pain of a forfeiture of 10£. And the monks of Gloucester, dwelling at Llanbadarn are to hold the said gifts absolutely and freely in such a way that certain other alms can be held for ever better and more freely.

A.D. 1115 to 1147 of the same King Henry I. 1100 to 1135 Bernard died 1141 Henry II. 1154-1189

Witness Richard of Poitou Archdeacon, &c.

Par. 553 of the same.

David* by the grace of God Bishop of St.

A.D. 1147 to 1176 of the same

* David Fitzgerald.

David's, to all both clergy and laity established throughout his diocese, greeting and blessing.

Be it known to you that we grant, and by our episcopal authority confirm, the donations and Alms which Gilbert son of Richard and his son Richard gave to the Church of St. Peter and to the monks of Gloucester: that is to say the Church of Llanbadarn with its appurtenances, viz. the land which is between the two waters Redion and Clarach, from
f. 139 the sea up to the moat of Llanbadarn, and so down by the land which was given to Wymond from St. Audoenus as far as Clarach, and the fishery in the Radion, and the Chapel with all things which appertain thereto, and the tithes of the yearly produce, of hunting, swine, calves, lambs, fishes, cheeses, wool, meal, pannage, and part of the meal which they themselves have ground above the Radian, and the Hospice with the garden in Ystradmeurig.

Par. 554 of the same.

A.D. 1175 of the same David by the grace of God Bishop of St. Davids, to all both clergy and laity established in his Diocese greeting and blessing. The case of our venerable brothers the Abbot and Monks of Gloucester concerning the Church of Llanbadarn which (church) in the unsettled state of the time certain people took from them and having taken it, *for some length of time* unjustly retained, (the case) referred to us by the most high Lord and father Pope Alexander We

undertake that it shall be examined and decided upon finally without allowing appeal.

Accordingly have carefully inquired into and discovered the truth, as well from their authentic writings submitted to us by their brothers John and Phillip, as from the unanimous attestation of all our Chapter, since the same Church by right appertained to the Monastery of the already named brothers.

The same Church with all its appurtenances we having convoked our Chapter at St. Davids have adjudged to the aforesaid Monastery of Gloucester.

We therefore confirming this adjudication made to the said brothers, ratify with the impress of our seal, and by our Chapter summoned at St. Davids we reinstate them in the aforesaid Church.

Given under our hand in the 1175th year from the Incarnation of our Lord.

Witness thereto Pontius, Archdeacon.

Hart's work is printed from two documents—firstly the MS. called Reg. Coll. Queen's College, Oxford, and secondly from the Cotton MSS. Dom. VIII. 2 and 22.—Both these MSS. are only XV. century compilations, and Hart gives his list of Donations word for word from the original MSS.—See his Vol. I., pp. 58–125. — What, however, is more interesting and to the point than arguing as to these discrepancies of only a few years, is that there is at

Gloucester' Cathedral, now in the Muniment Room, a somewhat similar Register to Hart's ; and in one of these volumes there are three or four deeds relating to Cardigan and one especially to the Restitution of the Church of Holy Trinity after it had been unjustly taken by the monks of Chertsey ;—it is really a letter written by T. (either Theobald 1108–1162, or Thomas a Becket 1162–1171)—Archbishop of Canterbury to D(David Fitzgerald 1147–1176), Bishop of St. Davids, commanding him to receive back the church from the thievish Monks of Chertsey and hand it over to the Monks of St. Peter ; this must be between 1147–1171, probably 1147–1162.—(For the information in this paragraph I am indebted to Canon Bazeley, of Gloucester Cathedral.)

CHAPTER III

A.D. 1164–1188

IN 1164 Rhys ap Gryffyd, Lord of Cardigan, besieged Cardigan Castle,* which being surrendered he destroyed, allowing all the soldiers and inhabitants to go out free, carrying all their possessions with them, keeping only the Governor, Fitz Stephen, a prisoner. He also conquered the Priory and the whole town. The Castle he rebuilt shortly, for in the grant of the then existing Priory Cell of Cardigan to Chertsey he grants to it tithes on the food and drinks, &c., used in the Castle, &c. A copy of this grant of Prince Rhys is:

In the Patent Roll 3 Henry VI. (written in Latin and Norman French) Henry VI. states he had inspected letters patent of his father, Henry V., made when he was Prince of Wales, who in his turn states that he had inspected letters patent of Richard, *1424*

* Meyrick's "Cardiganshire," p. xxxv.; also John Evan's "Popular History of the Ancient Britons," p. 236.

King of England and Fraunce, and lord of Ireland, who had inspected an enrolment made before Thomas de Bradeston, late justice of our father, Edward Prince of Wales (the Black Prince) in Session at Car-

1359 marthen, 1359, who ordered the Examination of the Charter given by Rhys ap Gryffyd (Rhys ap Gryffyd was Lord of Cardigan (1164–1195) to the Priory of Cardigan, in which he gives and grants for ever to the

About 1165 or 1166 Abbot and Monks of St. Peter's Chertsey, the Cell of Cardigan, with all its appurtenances; to wit, the Church of St. Mary, Cardigan, with the chapel of St. Peter de Castello, and with two carucates of land to the same appertaining which lie by the north side of the road which leads to Blaenporth and Canclaues* as far as Arthur's ford,† with the land outside the cemetery of the Church of St. Mary, and with all the appurtenances, the Church of St. Peter of Berwick (now Verwig) with its chapels and half a carucate of

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* Tan y Groes.

† So far I have been unable to identify "Arthur Ford." The only Ford near there now is Pigeons Ford, and that is not likely. Further North is a River Arth. There is great probability of there having been an Arthur's Ford, as at Pembryn, near Tan-y-Groes, is a field whose ancient name was "Karn y Bettws Gereint," and there is also a farm near called "Perth Gereint," also the old name of Cilgerran Castle was Cilgeraint (Geraint's Retreat)—or Dyn Geraint (Geraint's Fortress) showing that at least Geraint ap Erbin, one of Arthur's knights, sojourned occasionally in this region.—E. M. P.

land adjoining, and with all its appurtenances, the Church of Holy Trinity, which is called Landov, with one carucate of land adjoining, which is a "refugium" of the church, and with all its appurtenances, tithes of mills and fisheries, and of all things which can be tithed within the parishes of the said churches, tithes also of rents, and of food and drink in respect of the Castle of Cardigan, &c., and that they should be absolutely free in all respects and only responsible to Holy Church.

Rhys ap Gryffydd died in 1195 or 1196. He probably granted this charter about 1165 or 1175.

There is also in 1428 a confirmation to John, Abbot of Chertsey, &c., by letters patent of Edward the Black Prince, dated Cardigan 1 July, 1349, at the suit of Brother John de Whitele, Prior of the Cell of Cardigan, of the charter of Rhys ap Gryffydd, Prince of Wales.

1424 (Translation) Confirmation for the Abbot and Monks of Chertsey

Patent Roll No. 416, 3 Henry VI., Part I., m. 13. To all to whom &c. greeting. We have inspected letters patent of our father the late King (Henry V) made at a time when he was Prince of Wales in these words Henry eldest son of the King of England Prince of Wales etc. to all to whom etc. greeting We have inspected letters patent of Richard King of England in these words Richard King of England and France Lord of Ireland to all to whom these present letters shall come greeting We have inspected an enrolment made before Thomas de Bradeston late

Justice of our father Edward Prince of Wales in Session at Kermerdyn on the morrow of Holy Trinity (16 June) 33 Edw. III in these words

17 June 1359

The Lord the Prince sent his letter to his Justice in the parts of South Wales in these words—(in Norman French) Edward eldest son of the noble King of England and of France Prince of Wales Duke of Cornwall and Earl of Chester to our dear and trusty Sir Thomas de Bradeston our Justice of South Wales greeting: Whereas the Prior of Cardigan has complained to us that as the Prior and the Convent of Cardigan hold certain lands and tenements of us in frank almoign by the charter of Ries le fitz Gryff at one time Prince of Wales you nevertheless distrain them from one day to another to do suit at the Courts and Sessions in those parts contrary to the purport of the said charter to their great damage and hurt So we command you to cause the charter above-said to be examined and all the circumstances thereof and whether he holds other lands for which he ought to do suit and whether the suit has been done ever since the conquest or no and according to what you shall find do thereupon right and reason Given under our Privy Seal at London the third day of June in the year of the reign of our very dear Lord and Father the King of England the thirty third and of France the twentieth.

Rhys ap Gryffyd

3 June 1359

Charter of

By virtue of which mandate the charter of Ries

son of Griff formerly Prince of Wales was inspected and examined in these words: *Rhys ap Gryffyd*

Reis son of Gruffun Prince of Wales to all the faithful servants in Christ as well present as future to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Know that I for the health of my soul and for the souls of my Father and my Mother and for the health of my wife and of my daughters have given and granted and this my present charter have confirmed to God and the church of St. Peter and the Abbot and Monks of Chertsey and their successors for ever in free and pure and perpetual alms the Cell of Cardigan with all the appurtenances to wit: the church of St. Mary of Cardigan with the chapel of St. Peter de Castello and with 2 carucates of land to the same appertaining, which lie by the north side of the road which leads to Blaenporth and Canclaues* as far as Arthurs Ford, and with the land outside the cemetery of the church of St. Mary for the burgage tenure (de Burgagia facienda) and with all the appurtenances, the church of St. Peter of Berwick with its chapels and half a carucate of land adjoining and to the same appertaining and with all appurtenances the church of Holy Trinity which is called Landov with one carucate of land adjoining which is a privilege (refugium) of the Church and with all its appur- *Rhys ap Gryffyd*

* Tan y Groes.

tenances tithes of mills and fisheries and of all things which can be tithed within the parishes of the said churches tithes also of rents and of food and of drink in respect of the Castle of Cardigan and of all things which can be tithed and that they and their men may be free and quit from all secular action throughout all my land So that they shall answer nothing to anyone for anything except to Holy Church And that they and their men may have hold and possess the same liberty in all things which I and my men have in wood and in plane in meadows feedings and pastures in waters and mills within the Borough and without in all things and in all places Of this gift and grant the witnesses are the lord Walter Abbot of St. Mary of Cameys Master Mathew Clerk Stephen Chaplain Trahern son of the Roden Mailgun and Gruffin son of the lord Reis the Prince Hengenereit the Constable William the Welshman John Philip Turstan his son Lambert of Flounders Walter Palmar Caradoc the priest Silbrictus of Bristowe William Parmenter Jordan Coterell Alfred Palmer John and Robert sons of Milefont Robert son of Loured Philip his brother and many others* which being inspected and examined an inquisition is taken by the oath of Thomas Coit William Cist John Gyby John Coit John Dounyng John Waddyng John Laurence John Duy John Taillour John Spert John ap Eiynon and John

* No date appears.

Stevene and (who are) asked whether the aforesaid Prior holds any other lands or tenements beyond those which are contained in the charter aforesaid and whether the Prior or his predecessors had acquired more lands or tenements in respect of which they ought to do suit at the Courts and Sessions of the Justices in the parts of South Wales or were accustomed to do from the time of the conquest.

Who say upon their oath that he holds no lands or tenements in respect of which he ought to do suit at the Courts or at the Sessions neither were he nor his predecessors accustomed by right to do so from the time of the conquest because they say that he holds all his lands and tenements in free pure and perpetual alms.

Therefore it is granted that henceforth neither the aforesaid Prior nor his successors shall be distrained hindered molested or aggrieved to do the suit aforesaid saving the right of the lord the Prince. In witness whereof to this exemplification we have caused the seal of our Chancellor of Kermerdyn * to be set. Given at Kermerdyn 20th day of August in the 6th year of our reign. *20 August 1382*

Moreover we holding firm and valid the enrolment gift and grant aforesaid for us and our heirs as much as in us is do accept approve ratify and confirm to the Abbot and Monks now and their successors as the letters aforesaid reasonably testify. In witness

* Carmarthen.

whereof we have caused these our letters to be made
3 Nov. 1407 patent. Given under our Seal in our castle of Cardigan 3d day of November in the ninth year of the reign of the said most dread lord our King and Father Henry the fourth after the Conquest.

And we by the advice and assent of the lords spiritual and temporal and the commonalty of our kingdom of England being in our Parliament held at Westminster in the first year of our reign not revoking the enrolment gift and grant aforesaid do approve ratify and confirm them as the letters aforesaid
22 Nov. 1424 reasonably testify. In witness whereof etc. Witness the King at Westminster 22nd day of November.

By writ of Privy Seal.

Patent Roll 7 Henry VI., Part I., m. 17.

A.D. 1428 Westminster 19 Nov. 1428 July 1, 1349 Inspeximus and confirmation to John Abbot of Certeseye and to the convent of that place of letters patent of Edward, Prince of Wales,* eldest born son of Edward III., dated at Cardigan 1 July in the seventh year of his principality under the Seal of his chancery of South Wales inspecting and confirming at the suit of brother John de Whitele, prior of the Cell of Cardigan, a charter of Rhys ap Griffin, Prince of Wales, as follows :

* Edward the Black Prince was created Prince of Wales May 12, 1343; so that the first of July in the seventh year of the Principality is July 1, 1349.

Resus filius Griffini princeps Walliae, etc. (as in Pat. R. 3 Hen. VI. Part I., m. 13, 22 Nov. 1424).

In 1176 Prince Rhys gave a magnificent entertainment at Cardigan Castle, having issued invitations one year before, and sending to all the known countries of Europe, inviting their chivalry and their troubadours to an Eisteddfod, or musical competition. Old writers say that 30,000 came in response to his invitation. There is no doubt that this old Castle was far more extensive then than at the present day, and stretched West to what is now called the "Mwldan," this name being derived from an old Welsh word "Mwl" (the *concreted* mass) and "tan" or "dan" (under), therefore proving that the old Castle walls extended along the ridge, above the present "Mwldan." They were still reported by a visitor, to Cardigan, in 1750 to have been standing at that date.

Before proceeding further, an interesting corroborative fact as to the invasion of the Danes (also proving that they probably came as far as the present Cardigan Bridge, the old Bridge having been about 200 yards further up the river at the place at present known as the old Ferry, opposite Gloucester Row) is found in some skulls which were dug up some years ago, when rebuilding a house, which skulls * had been cleft by battle axes, and belonged, probably,

* One of these cleft skulls I saw, about six years ago, in Cardigan.—E. M. P.

to some of those who had fought against the Danes in their raids of 987, 989, or 1071.

In 1188 * Prince Rhys ap Gryffydd entertained Archbishop Baldwin of Canterbury, and his train, and Giraldus Cambrensis; when Archbishop Baldwin was journeying through Wales, preaching the third Crusade. The first night Prince Rhys entertained them at St. Dogmael's Abbey, and Archbishop Baldwin preached the next day on the Pembrokeshire side of the river, near the end of the old Bridge which crossed the River, opposite to the Priory Church of St. Mary's, the engine house for the engines of the G. W. Railway at Cardigan Station now stands on the site of this old Church. The old ordnance survey marked the field as "Parc y Capel" (the Church field), and the cottage standing there prior to the engine house was called "Capel Sidan," implying that the Church had been a circular Church. The next night Archbishop Baldwin and his train were entertained by Prince Rhys at Cardigan Castle, Cardigan Priory being far too small to hold such a crowd.

Giraldus Cambrensis writes, 1188, Vol. II., p. 55: "Cardigan contained only one small Priory of Black Monks of the Benedictine Order, a cell unto the Abbey of Chertsey."

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* "Itinerary of Giraldus Cambrensis," vol. ii. p. 58.

CHAPTER IV

A.D. 1291–1415

TAXATIO Ecclesiastica, P. Nicolai, p. 276. *A.D. 1291*

Meneven' Dios.

"Taxacio bonor' temporaliu' Archid' de Kardigan & Kermerdyn.

"Prior de Kardigan Het in villa de Kardigan duas caruc' terr' cû redd' & alius commoditati 2–13–4.

"Summa 2–13–4."

Taxation of temporal goods in the archdeaconry of Cardigan and Carmarthen.

The Prior of Cardigan has in the town of Cardigan 200 acres of land with rents and other commodities.

Cotton MS. Vitellius, A. XIII., f. 75, b.

Privilegium of Pope Alexander III., who grants to the Abbot and Convent of Chertsey the Priory of Cardigan. *Translation*

Alexander the Bishop servant of the servants of God to his beloved Sons at the Convent Monastery

of St. Peter's of Chertsey greeting and apostolic blessing. At the just request of the petitioners it is right that we should grant our ready assent and grant request which it is not unreasonable should be fulfilled. Therefore beloved sons in God agreeing with ready assent to your demands the Churches below named and appurtenances thereto appertaining which you peacefully own to you and through you to your monastery we confirm with apostolic authority and further affirm by the authority of this present writing Which we think fit to mention under their proper names The Priory of Cardigan with its appurtenances the Church of Holy Trinity which is called Llando with its appurtenances the Chapel of St. Peter of Cardigan with its appurtenances tithes which you receive from the Lord of the place namely in mills and in water and lands also both woodland and meadow of the aforesaid lord Accordingly we decree that it is permitted to no one to disturb you or your monastery on any pretext whatever or to take away your possessions or if taken away to retain them neither to curtail nor to molest them unduly nor to infringe this our confirmation nor with wilful daring to oppose it but if any one presume to attempt this let him know that he incurs the wrath of God Almighty and of his holy Apostles Peter and Paul

Given at Tusculum the 17th day of July

(Pontificate 1159–1181)

Cotton MS. Vitellius A. XIII., f. 72.

Translation

Privilegium of Pope Alexander the Fourth of all the possessions and other goods of the Church of St. Peter of Chertsey and the Church of St. Mary of Cardigan

Alexander the Bishop servant of the servants of God to his beloved sons of the Abbey Monastery of St. Peter of Chertsey and to his brethren both present and future who choose the monastic life it is suitable that apostolic protection should be at hand lest in any way the entrance of any rash thoughts may call them away from their duty or the strength which is wanting may harm the sacred things of religion Therefore ye beloved sons in the Lord at your requests we accordingly mercifully grant the Monastery of St. Peter at Chertsey in the diocese of Winchester to which your obedience is due safe under the protection of St. Peter and ourselves we undertake and confirm under this our seal Imprimus decreeing that the Monastic Order which we know to be established in that same monastery according to God and the rule of St. Benedict should be maintained inviolate there for ever Besides whatever possessions and whatever goods the same monastery possesses at the present time according to the laws of Church and State or with the help of God will obtain in the future by grant from the Popes or by gifts on the part of Kings and Princes or by offerings

of the faithful or by other just means let them remain undiminished and secure to you and your successors Amongst which we have thought fit to mention them under their proper names The place itself in which the aforesaid Monastery is situated with all its appurtenances the Priory of Cardigan with all its appurtenances the Church of the Holy Trinity situated in the place which is called Llando with all its appurtenances the Church of St. Peter of Berewyke with all its appurtenances the Chapel of St. Peter of Cardigan with all its appurtenances the Chapel of St. Michael of Tresman with all its appurtenances the tithes which you hold in the places which are called Chertsey half of the tithes which you hold in the place which is called Egeham half of the tithes in the place which is called Chabeham half of the tithes . . . . . .

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be unto all however who observe His laws in this same place and may they behold the fruits of their well-doing and may they obtain the reward of eternal peace from their just Judge Amen Amen

April 3rd Given at Anagnia by the hand of Master Jordan a Notary and Vice Chancellor of the Holy Roman Church the 3rd of April A.D. 1258 in the fifth year of the pontificate of the holy pope Alexander Fourth.

Calendar of Papal Registers.

Papal Letters VI.

1404–1415.
London, 1904, 8vo.
Lateran Regesta, Vol. clxxii.

P. 439. 4 John xxiii.

To the precentor of St. Davids Mandate—at the recent petition of Thomas Day, perpetual vicar of St. Mary's Cardigan, in the diocese of St. David's, containing that although the fruits etc. of the said church, which is appropriated to the Benedictine monastery of Chertsey (*Chertescia*) in the diocese of Winchester, and in which the abbot and convent have obtained the institution as perpetual rector, called prior, of one of their monks, are worth 60 (sic of above, p. 248) marks sterling of English money a year, nevertheless the vicar's portion does not exceed 100*s.* of the same money a year, which is insufficient—to summon the abbot and convent and rector and others concerned, and if he find the above to be true to assign a third part of the said fruits etc. as portion for the said Thomas and his successors. *Justis et honestis.*

Translation 1413–14 6 Id. March Bologna (f. 100d.)

Note.—At page 248 is a similar mandate to the same precentor; but here the fruits etc. of the Church are said to be worth one hundred marks sterling a year, whereas the amended mandate has *sixty*.

The letter (p. 248) is cancelled, the corrector of the entry recording that it has been quashed on

account of too much correction and registered elsewhere under the fourth year, the first entry being *second* year, which is an error.

By the Index there is no other reference to Cardigan.

CHAPTER V

A.D. 1501–1535-6

LELAND, librarian to Henry VIII., in his "Itinerary," Vol. V., p. 10, states: "There is a Priori in Cardigan Toune, but in it was but II Religiose Menne Blak Monkes, it stondith yet, and is a Cell unto Chertsey."

Camden, in his "Britannia," translated by Gough, 1607, Vol. II., p. 528, writes of the Church as large and handsome, and contiguous to it are the ruins of a Priory of Black Monks, Cell to Chertsey.

Henry Boswell in his "Antiquities of England and Wales"* mentions that "there was formerly a Priory of Black Monks adjoining the Castle, subordinate to Chertsey." Old maps and pictures show the Priory grounds and buildings extending along the river banks to the Castle, and some of the cottages are still standing that belonged to the Priory,† one having an old oak banister rail to the staircase. This

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* Not paged.

† And still belong to the Priory.

has the reputation of being the house where the Bishops of St. Davids lived when they came to Cardigan.

In an early map of Cardigan, 1599, the Priory Church is represented as cruciform in shape, and in a large Dutch folio map of Cardiganshire, 1646, by Blaeu, the Priory Church is not only represented as cruciform, but with a chapel adjoining the north side, this probably would be the Chantry Chapel of Sir John ap Jevan, mentioned in the Chantry Certificate of 1547–8.

This map is also identical with a map in the fourth vol. of Aerdryck's "Beschryving, Welch Vervat Engelandt," printed at Amsterdam by Johannem Blaev, 1648.

In another map of Cardiganshire, from Camden, Wilson edit. 1607, Cardigan is simply represented by three towers, signifying a corporation, and the road is shown leading straight to the Church from the old Bridge, which crossed the River nearly opposite to the West End of St. Mary's Church.

Speed also, 1610, has an old map of Cardigan, but not so good.

Some people having started a foolish tale that the Priory, Cardigan, was part of the dower of Katherine of Aragon, it may be well to insert here a copy or the Assignment of Dower to Katherine of Aragon, by Arthur, Prince of Wales, son of Henry VII.,

King of England, taken from the Original Grant, at the Record Office; they being married at St. Paul's, 14th November, 1501.

Rymer's "Foedera" (ed. 1727), Vol. XII. 780. *A.D.*
Chapter House Diplomatic Documents, No. *1501*
1298.

Assignment of Dower to Katherine of Aragon.

Arthur Prince of Wales & eldest son of Henry King of England & France, and lord of Ireland to the Archbishops &c. Greeting

Recites Agreement & treaty of marriage between the said King and the Most Serene and powerful Princes Ferdinand & Elizabeth * King and Queen of Castile Leon &c.

The Lady Katherine fourth daughter of the said King & Queen should be endowed within ten days before or after solemnization of marriage

We Arthur Prince aforesaid at the door of the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul London on the day of solemnization of marriage namely fourteenth day of November 1501 endow the said Katherine of *Married at St. Paul's 14 Nov. 1501*

The Lordship Castle Town & County of Carnarvon the lordship castle & town of Conewey with four Commotes of Issaph & Ughah Navecowey & Cruthyn in said county Carnarvon

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* Elizabeth and Isabel (Isabella) are at this period interchangeable (as here) and the same.

Cardigan -no Priory

The Lordship & Stewardship of Contremaure the Lordship castle town & county of Cardigan the Lordship & castle of Haverford with the prises of wine there the castle and lordship of Newcastell in Emelyn in South Wales and the Lordship of Newen & Pulghely in North Wales together with all &c. &c.

And also of and in the Castle & Lordship of Walingford with hamlets & members and annual farm of the town of Walynford &c. &c. in counties Warwick Lincoln & Devon

And also the Castle & County of Flynt and the Cantred & lands of Inglefield and all manors lands &c. And also the Manor &c. of Maklefeld in Cheshire and £40 annual farm of City of Chester

Habendum

To have and to hold all & singular the aforesaid cities castles lordships manors &c. to the said most Illustrious Lady Katherine for term of her life for her dower and in full recompense and satisfaction of a third part of the Principality of Wales Duchy of Cornwall and County of Chester and in complete fulfilment of the agreements treaties & conclusions made between the said King Henry of one part and the most Serene King & Queen of Castile Leon Aragon &c. of the other part.

(15) Nov. 1501

Given under our Great (blank) day of November A.D. 1501 in the seventeenth year of the reign of Henry the Seventh.

Arthur Prince of Wales died 2nd April 1502 at Ludlow Castle in Shropshire and was buried in Worcester Cathedral. Katherine was re-married 3rd June 1509 to Henry the Eighth, who ascended the throne 22nd April 1509 (being at the time of his brother's death Duke of York).

In the British Museum. Cole MSS. Vol. XXVIII., fo. 120, b, one finds *

Co. Cardigan.

Priors of Cardigan.

John Barnet made Prior 1411 by the Convent of Chertsey, and resigned, 1434.

John Thornbury succeeded, 1434.

Wm † Hore last Prior of Cardigan occurs 1524.

Cole here acknowledges that he takes these particulars from MS. Notes in Mr. Willis's second vol. of "History of Abbeys."

"History of Abbeys," Browne Willis, Vol. II., p. 311.

Pensions paid An. 1553 to Incumbents of Chantries, &c.

To Griffin Williams £5 (Incumbent in Cardigan Parish.

To Philip ap Price ‡ £2. 8*d.* „ „

and

To John Dudley, £4.

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* "Wales," p. 311. † Error for Thomas.

‡ ? Hoell.

And from another document a slightly fuller list as follows :—

The following names of Priors are all that have been ascertained up to the present time.

1 July 1349 John de Whitele, vide patent roll 7 Henry VI.

1411 John Barnet, made prior by the convent of Chertsey, resigned 1434.

1434 1434. John Thornbury succeeded.

John Frodsham, contemporary of Sir Morgan.

1524 Thomas Hore, last Prior.

1535 The "Valor Ecclesiasticus," Henry VIII., Vol. IV., p. 393, gives the value of the lands, tenements, rents and tithes, &c., of the Priory House or Cell of St. Mary the Virgin of Cardygane, in Cardigan, Berwick and Tremayne, Thomas Hore at that time being Prior. A certain yearly pension was paid to the Abbot of Chertsey, £6. 13. 4, and another pension of £10 yearly to Sir Morgan, vicar of Cardigan in yearly exercising his office. Visitation, archidiaconal fees, &c., 15/3, and a steward's salary 26*s* 8*d*, with a list of tythes from some other 16 parishes: where the name has changed the present name is placed in brackets.

A.D. 1535-6 "Valor Ecclesiasticus," Henry VIII., Vol. IV., page 393.

Translation Deanery of Subayron, in the Archdeaconry of Cardygane.

Priory House or Cell of Saint Mary the Virgin of Cardygan, in the County of Cardigan.

Cardygane

Thomas Hore, prior of the Priory aforesaid, monk of the rule of Saint Benedict by the gift or the Abbot of Chertsey holds the Priory houses and edifices to the Priory aforesaid belonging within the territory of the town of Cardigan to which belong divers lands and tenements and rents in Tref Mayne Berwicke and in the town and fields of Cardigan to the value of ten marks by the year & the parish church of the town of Cardigan with the chapel of Tref Mayne with all their emoluments and profits of a third part of the parish church of Barwicke at eight marks clear by the year And they are worth by the year beyond the said third part 30 marks Sum of the value in all amounts to thirty two pounds Thereof deducted in a certain pension yearly paid to the Abbot ot Chartsey aforesaid 6*£*. 13*s*. 4*d*. And in another pension yearly paid to Sir Morgan vicar of Cardigan in yearly exercising the said office 10*£*. And in the ordinary visitation every third year 3*s*. 4*d*. And in like money paid in the Archdeacons visitation for sinodals and procurations of the said churches every year 7*s*. 1*d*. And from indemnity yearly paid to the Cathedral Church or Saint David for appropriation of the said Churches 4*s*. And in the stipend or salary of a certain steward within the

household aforesaid yearly as of customary fee there 26*s.* 8*d.*

	£.	s.	d.
And there remains clear . . .	13	4	9
Tenth thereof.	1	6	5¾

Cardygane

Vicarage there of the collation of the lord prior of Cardigan whereof Morgan Meredith is perpetual vicar there And yearly from the exchequer of the said prior in money a pension of 10£. Thereof paid in the ordinary visitation every third year 20*d.* And in the visitation of the Archdeacon every year for sinodals and procurations 2*s.* 8*d.*

And there remains clear . . .	9	15	8
Tenth thereof.	–	19	7

Cardigane Chantry

Chantry there founded whereof Nicholas Harry clerk is Master and it is worth by the year in rent . . . . . 6 – –

Tenth thereof. . . . . 12 –

Varwyke

Church there divided in three parts viz. one part of the fruits and emolu-

ments there belong to the prior of Cardigan charged above in the charge of the prior at 8 marks yearly; the second part or portion belongs to the Abbot of Talley; and the third part of portion belongs to Owin Gr(iffith) vicar there

And so remains clear in the said two portions	10	13	4
Tenth thereof.	1	1	4

Aberporth

Church there of the collation of the Bishop of Saint Davids whereof Morgan Lowys is rector And the fruits and emoluments of this church in common years are worth 6*£*. Thereof in sinodals and procurations every year 5*s*. 9*d*. And in the ordinary visitation every third year 8*d*.

And there remains clear . . .	5	13	7
Tenth thereof.		11	4½

Blaenporth Prebend

Church there whereof John Vichan is prebendary under the Collegiate church of Llandewy-Brevi by collation of the

Bishop of Saint Davids is worth in common years . . . . . 6 – –
Tenth thereof. . . . . 12 –

Llangoidmore

The Church there of the collation of the Abbot of Talley whereof Hugh Mors is rector is worth in common years 13£ 6*s*. 8*d*. Thereof in sinodals and procurations every year 5*s*. 9*d*. And in the ordinary visitation 2*s*.
And there remains clear . . . 12 18 11
Tenth thereof. 1 5 10¼

Penbryn

Parish church there appropriated to the Monastery of Talley is worth by the year in fruits and oblations beyond the portion of the vicar clear in common years 15£ 6*s*. 8*d*. Nevertheless it is charged at 13£ 6*s*. 8*d*. in the Accompt of the said abbot among his other churches in the monastery &c. . . – – –

Penbryn

Vicarage there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Thomas

Bagard doctor of laws is vicar is worth in his portion in common years 15£ 6*s.* 8*d.* Thereof in sinodals and procurations every year 5*s.* 9*d.* And in the * visitation every third year 12*d.*

And there remains clear . . .	14	19	11
Tenth thereof.	1	10	–

Gogoff (Llandisiliogogo)

Vicarage there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof David Meredith clerk (is vicar) is worth in common years 4£. Thereof for sinodals and procurations every year 2*s.*

And there remains clear . . .	3	18	–
Tenth thereof.		7	9¾

Llanllonghaiarne (Llanlluwchaiarn)

Church there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Gr(iffith) D(avi)d is rector having there a manse and glebe And the fruit of this church in common years is worth 6£ 13*s.* 4*d.* Thereof in sinodals and procurations every year 5*s.* 9*d.*

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* *Sic* "ordinary" omitted.

And so remains clear . . .	6	7	8
Tenth thereof.		12	9½

Llanuchairon (Llanuwchaeron)

Church there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof the aforesaid Griffin is prebendary under the Collegiate Church of Llandewy is worth in common years 66*s.* 8*d.* Thereof in sinodals and procurations 5*s.* 9*d.*

And there remains clear . . .	3	0	11
Tenth thereof.		6	1½

Llanarth and Llanyna

Vicarage there of the collation of the Bishop of St. David's whereof the aforesaid Griffin is vicar is worth in his portion by the year 100*s.* Thereof in sinodals and procurations every year 2*s.*

And there remains clear . . .	4	18	0
Tenth thereof.		9	9¾

Hewyde Prebend

Prebend there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof John Lowys clerk is prebendary under the

Collegiate Church of Llandewy and is worth in common years 7£. Thereof in pension yearly paid to the said Collegiate (Church) 26*s.* 8*d.*

And there remains clear . . .	6	13	4
Tenth thereof.		13	4

Bottons Bledrous (Bettws Bleddys)

Church there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Thomas Lloid is rector and is worth in common years 4£ 13*s.* 4*d.* Thereof in sinodals and procurations every year 5*s.* 9*d.*

And there remains clear . . .	4	7	7
Tenth thereof.		8	9½

Kellan (Sylian)

Church there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Hugh ap David is rector and it is worth in common years 113*s.* 4*d.* Thereof paid in sinodals and procurations every year 5*s.* 9*d.*

And there remains clear . . .	5	7	7
Tenth thereof.		10	9½

Llanwonnen (Llanwnen)

Vicarage there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Sir Gr(iffin) is vicar and it is worth in common years 66*s.* 8*d.* Thereof paid in sinodals and procurations every year 2*s.*

And there remains clear . . .	3	4	8
Tenth thereof.		6	5¾

Llanbeder (Lampeter)

Vicarage there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Morgan Vichan is vicar and the vicarage is worth in common years . . . 6 13 4

Tenth thereof.		13	4

Llanwenok (Llanwenog)

Prebend there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Andrew Whitmey is prebendary under the Collegiate Church of Llandewy Brevi and it is worth in common years 18*£.* Thereof in sinodals and procurations every year 5*s.* 9*d.* And in the ordinary visitation every third year 12*d.*

And there remains clear . . .	17	12	11
Tenth thereof.	1	15	3½

Llanwenok

Vicarage there of the collation of the Bishop of St. Davids whereof Sir Rufus is vicar and it is worth in common years	8	–	–
Tenth thereof.		16	–

CHAPTER VI

A.D. 1536–1555

1536

THE next document from the Record Office is as follows :

The Close Roll (407) 28 Henry VIII. pt. 2, No. 59, grant of Bisham to Henry VIII. by William Bishop of St. David's and prior of Bisham.

Grant in perpetuity of the Monastery of Bustlesham or Bisham Montagu to Henry the Eighth his heirs and successors To all the faithful in Christ to whom the present charter shall come the Reverend Father in Christ William by divine permission Bishop of Saint David and Prior or perpetual Commendator of the Priory or Monastery of Holy Trinity called Buslysham, otherwise Bysham Mountague in the county of Berks. and the convent of the said Priory or Monastery Greeting Know ye that we the said Prior & Convent with our unanimous consent & assent have given granted & by this our present charter confirmed to the most excellent and most dread Prince & Lord Henry the Eighth by the

grace of God &c. all the Priory or Monastery of Buslysham otherwise Bisham Mountague aforesaid and also all the site soil ambit procinct church bell-tower & burying ground of the said late Priory or Monastery and all manors messuages &c. advowsons & patronages of churches chapels chantries vicarages pensions portions tithes oblations obventions &c. and other our rights possessions & hereditaments whatsoever as well spiritual as temporal to the said priory or monastery in any wise belonging or appertaining &c. &c. *To have hold & enjoy all our right &c. in the same or in any parcel thereof as fully & entirely as we now have hold and enjoy or ought to have &c. to the said lord the King his heirs & successors for ever In witness &c. we have set our common or conventual seal to these presents Given in our Chapter House of the Priory or Monastery aforesaid the fifth day of July in the 28th year of the reign of the said Lord King Henry the Eighth. *5 July 1536*

In the Originalia Roll, Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer, No. 303, 29 Henry VIII. No. 21, the first part refers to the refoundation of the Monastery of Bisham and the second part grants Bisham to the Benedictines, and also Cardigan to Bisham, John Cordrey, Abbot. *1537*

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* This part is much abridged by the writer.

Originalia Roll, Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer, No. 303, 29 Henry VIII., No. 21.

(Abstract)

Re-foundation of the Monastery of Bisham or Bustlesham in Co. Berks

The King to the Archbishops Bishops &c. greeting Know ye that we for the devotion which we bear to God & the Blessed Virgin Mary and for the increase of divine culture have erected & founded a certain new monastery or conventual house of the order of St. Benedict to the praise and honour of God and the Blessed Virgin Mary on the site of the late Priory or Monastery of Bysham otherwise Bisham Mountague otherwise Bustelesham in the county of Berks now dissolved and to us our heirs & successors by William Bishop of St. Davids late Prior Commendator of the said monastery and the Convent by their charter dated 5 July 28 Henry the Eighth and enrolled in our Chancery* given & granted of one Abbot and thirteen monks of the order aforesaid there to perform the divine offices daily for our good estate while we live & for the souls of us & our late consort Jane late Queen of England deceased and of our children progenitors & all faithful deceased persons Which same late Priory shall be named the new house of the monastery of St. Trinity of King Henry the Eighth of Bustelesham for ever Which with all the buildings houses cloisters church bells

* Close Roll, 28 Henry VIII., Part 2.

& other the appurtenances we do give & grant & by this our charter confirm to our beloved in Christ John Cordrey, monk of the said order whom we ordain Abbot of the new monastery and to the monks of the order aforesaid. Know ye moreover that we in consideration that John Cordrey some time Abbot of the late Monastery of St. Peter the Apostle of Chartesey in the county of Surrey & the convent of the said place by their charter dated 6 July 29 Henry the Eighth surrendered the late monastery of Chartesay to us & our heirs & successors with all the lordships manors messuages lands rectories vicarages advowsons & other hereditaments whatsoever within our kingdom of England Wales and the Marches do by these presents grant for us our heirs & successors to the said Abbot & monks of the new monastery of St. Trinity of Bustelesham that they may be a body corporate & acquire manors lands &c. have a common seal for business matters defend actions before Judges as well ecclesiastical as temporal have a Bishops mitre &c. And moreover we do give & grant to the said Abbot & Convent the site of the said late Monastery the Church of Bisham & all the messuages houses land & soil within & without the precincts of the late monastery and all the manors of Bisham & Ives in Co. Berks* &c. &c. And further we have given &

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* Here follows mention of manors in Berks, Bucks, Southampton,

granted and by these presents do give & grant to the said Abbot & convent of the said new monastery & their successors all that our Priory of Cardigan with all its rights and appurtenances in South Wales to the said late monastery of Chertsey belonging together with the pension of the Prior there and the whole rectory of Cardigan & all the messuages gardens lands tenements meadows pastures feedings woods underwoods waters fisheries rents reversions & services rectories churches pensions portions tithes oblations profits revenues emoluments & other possessions & hereditaments whatsoever with all & singular the appurtenances in Cardigan & elsewhere soever to the same Priory of Cardigan in whatsoever manner belonging and all that our late Priory of St. Mary the Virgin of Bechekilharte in Co. Carnarvon &c. &c. as fully & wholly and in as ample manner & form as we now have the same Priories of Cardigan & Bechekilhart & other the premises &c. All which manors messuages lands tenements & other the premises above by these presents granted are of the clear yearly value of £661. 14s. 9½d. by the year To have hold & enjoy all & singular the aforesaid manors &c. to the aforesaid John Cordrey now Abbot of the said new monastery & the convent & their successors for ever To hold of us our heirs & suc-

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Somerset, London, Wilts, Devon, Hertford, Middlesex, Surrey, Wales.

cessors in chief by the service of the fee of one knight and a yearly rent of £72. 1s. 5d. by name of a tenth or a yearly tenth part of all & singular the premises at our Court of the Augmentation of the revenues of our Crown at Michaelmas We do also grant to the said Abbot & Convent that they shall have letters patent under our great seal of England in due manner made without fine or fee great or small Witness the King at Westminster 18th December *18 Dec. 1537*

. . . . .

And further we do give & grant to the said Abbot (Cordrey) & Convent of the said new Monastery (Bisham) & their successors all that our Priory of Cardigan with all its rights and appurtenances in South Wales to the said late Monastery of Chertsey belonging together with the pension of the Prior there & the whole rectory of Cardigan & all the messuages gardens lands tenements meadows pastures feedings woods underwoods waters fisheries rents reversions & services rectories churches pensions portions tithes oblations profits revenues emoluments & other possessions & hereditaments whatsoever with all & singular the appurtenances in Cardigan & elsewhere soever to the same Priory of Cardigan in whatsoever manner belonging and all that our late priory of St. Mary the Virgin of Beckekilharte in County Carnarvon &c. as fully & wholly & in as

ample a manner & form as we have the said Priories of Cardigan and Beckekilhart & other the premises &c. All which manors messuages landes tenements & other the premises above by these presents granted are of the clear yearly value of £661. 14. 9½ by the year (i.e. Bisham Cardigan and Bechekilhart) &c. To hold of us our heirs & successors in chief by the service of one knight & a yearly rent of £72. 8.5 by name of a tenth or a yearly tenth part of all & singular the premises at our Court of Augmentation of the revenues of our Crown at Michaelmas We do also grant to the said Abbot & Convent that they shall have letters patent under our great seal of England in due manner made without fine or fee great or small &c. &c. &c. Witness the King at Westminster 18th December

1538 State Papers Domestic Henry VIII., Vol. XIII., Part 1, art. 1260. Henry VIII. orders to Gregory Richardsone and others to take possession of the Priory Cardigan, for the king, and to eject the then prior Hore, and for an inventory of the ornaments, iewels, plates, goods, chattels, etc., and mortgaged lands to be made.

State Papers Domestic Henry VIII., Vol. XIII., Part 1, art. 1260. Draft Commission to Thomas Johns and others to take into the King's hands the Priory or cell of Cardigan in Wales . . . . the Eighth Henry

by the grace of God King of
. . . . . England and of Fraunce
Defender of the Faith lorde of Ireland and in erth supreme hede of the Churche of Englond to oure well-belovid servant Thomas Johns Esquyer John ap Phillipes Esquyer William Vaughane Thomas Walter Jenkyn Lloyd Gregory Richardsone & Robert Holmes gretying where the late Abbott and Convent of the late Monastery of Bysham otherwyse callyd Bustlesham otherwyse callyd the newe Monastery of the Holy Trynyty late of our foundacion in the countye of Barkes by ther convent seale have gyven & surrendered to us & to our use the seid Monasterye with all the manors londes & tenementes personagis hereditamentes & possessions as well spirituall as temporall belongynge to the same late Monasterye and Beynge in or upon eny of the londes or possessions thereof Knowe ye that we wyllynge to be truly answeryd of suche ornamentes Juelles goodes & catelles as be & Remayne at the Priory or Cell of Cardygan in Wales whyche belongyd to the seid late Monasterye and nowe belongynge to us by reason of the seid gyft and also to be truly advertesyd & sertefyed of the clere yerely value of all the manors londes tenementes Rentes Revenues & possessions as well spirituall as temporall Deductynge & Defalkynge the Reprises goinge out of the same And also of the woodes under (woodes) commyns and

of all the casualties that haith & may happen to come to the said Priorie or celle of Cardygan and of all suche londes as haith ben morgaged or laid to pledge by the Prior that now is or of any of his predicessors wherein we may have any juste title for the Recovery thereof and also of all the patronages or Advowsons whereof the seid prior or his predicessors have had the nomynacion and presentation in the Right of the said Priory or Celle trustynge in your fidelities confydence & approvid wysdomes have appoynted & assyngned you to be our commyssyonors gyvynge to you & thre of you wherof you the seid Gregory Richardsone to be one that with as convenient spede as ye can ye shall repayre unto the seid priory or Celle of Cardygan & ther to expell amove and put out of possessione John* Hore the prior ther And to take it into your handes to our use and to enquyre by all wayes meanes & polycies you maye (here the rest of the leaf appears to have been cut and continues thus) . . . . . Cardigan and enquyre by all means and . . . what playte Jewylles ornamentes howseholde stuffe corne & cattalle be & remayne at the seid priorye or Celle or elce where belonginge to the same priorye or Celle and to make a trewe Inventorye therof and to putt the same in save Custody by your Discressiones untill our further pleasure be knowen in that

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* Thomas.

behalfe And that ye shalle survey alle the landes tenementes & possessions as well Spirituall as Temporall belongynge to the seid Priorye or Celle and to make true & Distyncte values therof and to examyn what tytle or interest the seid John Hore* nowe beinge Prior or chefe Governor of the seid Priorye or Celle hath in the same Priorye or Celle or in any of the possessions or Revenues therof and that ye shall certyfye without delaye to our Chancellor & Counsell of our Court of Augmentacions of the Revenues of our Crowne in writynge in parchement under your seales or the seales of thre of you wherof the seid Gregory Richardsone to be one the trouth of the circumstaunce of the premisses commandynge alle & singuler our Justices Mayres Shereffes Bailiffes Constables & alle other our officers mynysters & subjectes whatsoever they bin that they & every of theym shalbe obedyent & assystynge you and every of you in & about the due execution of this our commission

In wetness wherof &c.

Yevene &c. the XXVIth day of June Anno XXX° *26 June 1538*

A first draft of this commission appears in Letters and Papers Henry VIII., Vol. XIII., Pt. 2, No. 1197.

The surrender of Bisham Abbey to Henry VIII. *1539* (Exchequer Augmentation Office, No. 39.)

Abstract.

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* Thomas.

To all the faithful in Christ to whom this present writing shall come John Cordrey Abbot of the New Monastery of Bustlysham otherwise called John Cordrey Abbot of the New Monastery of Bysham otherwise called John Abbot of the New Monastery of St. Trinity of King Henry the Eighth of Bustlysham in the county of Berks of the order of St. Benedict and Convent of the same place Greeting and know ye that we the said Abbot & Convent for certain just causes moving our consciences have given & granted and by these presents do give grant render & confirm to our lord King Henry the Eighth all our said Monastery of Bustlysham & all the manors messuages lands revenues services gifts of Churches Vicarages & other ecclesiastical benefices whatsoever &c. within the counties of Berks Wilts Bucks Suffolk Southampton Somerset Devon Denbigh and elsewhere within the kingdom of England & Wales & the Marches therof to the same Monastery in whatsoever manner belonging and all our Charters evidences writings and muniments concerning the Monastery manors lands &c. To have hold & enjoy the said Monastery and all & singular the manors lands &c. to our said lord the King his heirs & assigns for ever And we the said Abbot and Convent & our successors will warrant the said Monastery of Bustlysham otherwise Bysham and all & singular other the premises to the said

King his heirs & assigns against all people for ever

In witness whereof we the Abbot & Convent to this writing have caused our common seal to be set

Dated 19th June 30. Henry VIII.

(L.S.) Seal good.

Acknowledged before
Richard Layton and
Eduart Carne
Masters in Chancery

In the Cotton MS., Cleopatra E. IV., Folio 118, there is the interesting account of the examination of Prior Hore, relative to the Lady of the Burning Taper, and in it is the first mention of Christ's Church in Cardigan. To the present day in Cardigan there is the story handed down of the Virgin with the taper, but with the addition that Queen Elizabeth ordered it to be thrown into the River Teify; a search at the Record Office among the State and Domestic Papers of Queen Elizabeth does not produce anything in support of this addition to Henry VIII.'s orders. According to this examination of Prior Hore the taper evidently was opened then.

Cotton MS., Cleopatra E. IV.

Papers and Letters relating to the Reformation and Dissolution of the Monasteries.

The examinacion of Thomas Hore Prior of Cardigane donatyve of the late monasterye of *f. 118*

Chersy, concernynge the pretensed taper of our Lady there.

In primis the sayd pryor sayeth that he hath be prior there the space of fyve yeres.

Item that he never saw the taper of our Lady with in but at the neder ende where it appered wood unto his judgement.

Item that he estemed the same to be a holy relyque to his judgemente accordinge to the fame of the cuntrey unto the tyme that he saw it opened And thene he confesseth hyme selfe to have be deceaved therin.

Item that the Image now situate in the church of Cardigane whiche ys used for a greate pilgremage to this presente daye was founde standinge apone the Ryver of Tyve beinge ane arme of the see and her sonne apon her lappe and the same taper bernynge in her hande.

Item that the same ymage was caryed thens unto Christes Church of Cardigane and the sayd ymage wold not tarry there but was founde thre or fower tymes in the place where now ys buylded the church of our Lady and the taper burnynge in her hande which contynued styll burnynge the space of nyne yeres with out wastynge untill the tyme that one foreswore hymselfe thereon And then it extincted and never burned after.

Item that sence the ceasinge of burnynge of the

sayd taper it was was* enclosed and taken for a greate relyque and so worshipped and kyssed of pilgremes and used of mene to sweare by in difficill and harde matters wherof the advauntage admounted to greate sommes of money in tymes passed payenge yerely of the same xx^ti^ nobles for a pencion unto thabbot of Chersey.

The examinacion of Sir Morgan Meredeth vicare of our Lady church there.

In primis he sayeth that he hath be vicare there xxj^ti^ yeres

Item that Prior John Frodsame tolde hym that because the people toke the waxe awaye he put the tree beneth that the people shulde not dyminesh the substance of the taper other wise he assenteth and agreeth in all thinges as the prior.

Injunction to the said prior and vicarmade and enjoined the 16th day day of the month of March by the mediation of the king's authority

Injunctiones dictis priori et vicaris facte et injuncte decimo sexto die mensis Marcii Auctoritate regia mediante.

In primis that the sayd prior and vicare alternis † vicibus shall preach and declare the gospell or the Epistle reade apon that daye in the mother tongue exponynge the same syncerely as farre as their lernynge will extende openynge to the people the abhominable idolatry and disceatfull jugglinge of their predicessors there in worshippinge and causinge

* *Sic*, twice.

† By alternate turns.

to be worshipped a pece of old rottene tymber puttinge the people in belefe the same to be a holy relyque and a taper which had burned without consumynge or wast, &c.

Item the sayd prior and vicare shall so preach every Sondaye and holyday betwixte this and Dominica in albis.

Item the sayd prior and vicare shall do awaye or cause to be done awaye all maner clothes fygured waxe delusyons of myracles shrowdes and other entysementes of the ignorante people to pilgremage and ydolatry.

Item that they shall take an ynventory of all and every soch clothes wax shrowdes and other entysementes and the same shall converte in to the use or pore people or other wise to some other good use makynge therof a recknynge in writinge declaringe the trewe bestowynge and usinge of the same.

Item that all and synguler these injunctyons shalbe inviolablye observed in payne of contempte

(No endorsement)

British Museum.

A literal copy, except that the contracted words are here extended.

Newell's "History of the Welsh Church," p. 389, states: "At Cardigan there was an image of Virgin,

with a taper in her hand, which was believed to have burnt nine years, until one forswearing himself upon it, it went out.

In the Exchequer King's Remembrancer, Miscellaneous Books, No. 31 (Cardinal Pole's Pension Book), one has the Pension to Philip ap Hoell, £2 0 8; Pension to Griffith Williams, £5; Pension to John Dudley, £4. *1555 or 6*

Exchequer King's Remembrancer,
Miscellaneous Books, No. 31,
Cardinal Pole's Pension Book.

Names and surnames of divers persons and their several fees annuities and pensions for term of life or years granted and hereafter to be paid by force of an Act of Parliament,* namely: from the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the second and third years of the reigns of Philip and Mary (1555) by the grace of God, King and Queen of England, France, Naples, Jerusalem, and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith &c.

County of Cardigan in South Wales.

Chantries, Colleges, &c.

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* Entitled, "An Act for the Extinguishment of the First Fruits and touching Order and Disposition of the Tenths of Spiritual and Ecclesiastical Promotions," &c., 2 & 3 Ph. & M., cap. 4. (Translation, f. 73 b.)

Pensions of:

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Dyrhame, clerk, lately celebrating within the College of Llanthewye Brevey by the year	6	0	0
Reginald Williams, late incumbent, by year.	5	0	0
The same Reginald late incumbent by year	0	16	8
Philip ap Hoell lately celebrating in the parish of Cardygane by year . .	2	0	8
John Dudley, late incumbent by year.	4	0	0
Griffin Williams, late incumbent in the parish of Cardygane aforesaid by year	5	0	0
Morgan Jenkyn late incumbent in the College of Llantheweye Brevey by year .	3	6	8

The sum of all payments in County Cardigan amounts to £117 7 0.

Church Goods.

A List of the Inventories of Church Goods taken chiefly in 6 Edward VI.

And also of:

Inventories of the Goods, &c. of Monasteries and other Religious Houses taken at the time of their dissolution.

(In the section allotted to "Wales" for Cardiganshire there is nothing but this):

Wales *Co. Cardigan.*

Exch. Church goods A Certificate of the amount of lead belonging to the late Monastery of Istrad Flere (Strata Florida).

No. $\frac{10}{57}$

For Co. Carmarthen, on the other hand, there is a long list of Churches and Chapels—sixty-eight in all.

In the "English Benedictine Congregation," Chronological Notes by Dom Bennet Weldon, published 1881, p. 53: "Those of the Abbeys which follow were also counted among the spiritual Barons and Peers of the Realm, but had not prerogative of seat in Parliament" (five Abbeys mentioned) then "VI, St. Peters, Chertsey in Surrey, £744 sterling. It had a Priory at Cardigan in Wales, £13 sterling."

CHAPTER VII

A.D. 1539–1552

1539 IN the Augmentation Office are Particulars of grant to William Cavendish for 79 years of Priory, &c., No. 254 Henry VIII.

Augmentation Office.
Particulars for Grants.
Henry VIII., No. 254.

Cavendishe (William) Grantee.
(No request and no date).

(Begins with the County of Hertford—parcel of the possessions belonging to the late Monastery of St. Albans, Lordships of Northawe, &c.)

The County of Berks

*The late newe Monastery of the Holy Trynyty of Kinge Henry the VIII of Buslesham in the seyd County } Parcell of the possessions apperteynyng to the sayd late Monastery.

The late Priory or Celle of Cardyganne in South Wales yeldeth in the Farme of the Scyte of the sayd

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* This document has been read with great difficulty, from discoloration and faintness of writing in parts.—J. A. C. V.

Celle or Priory of Cardygan with all buildynges and all other howsys ther as barnys Stabulles howses garnars garnettes pomaries and Fysshynges as well in the comen Waters as in the several Waters ther and also with all manors landes tenementes medowes feedynges and pastures together with all woddes Rentes Revercyons and Sarveeys wyth alle profyttes comodytes and advantagys and also the advowsons Spirituale promocyons and Dygnytes tenthes oblacyons and emolumentes whatt so ever they bynne to the seyd late Celle or priorye belongynge or in any wyse apperteynyng And also the personage of Cardyganne wyth the Chapell of Tresmayne togyther wyth the tenthes profettes of the parroche churche of Cardyganne in the County of Cardiganne wyth all tenthes oblacyons and obvencyons to the seyd late Priorye or Celle belongynge or apperteynyng in the tenure of William Cavendysshe so letten unto hym by Indenture Datyd the VII* daye of Apryell in the XXIXth yere of the Reigne of our sovereigne lorde Kyng Henry theyght for the terme of IIII* XIX* yerys yeldynge yerely therfor over and above £X.* to be payed yerely by the seyd William Cavendysshe to the vycar of Cardigann aforeseyde wyth alle other chargys as well ordynary as extraordynary goyng oute and to be payed of the premysses Dueryng

* Figures doubtful.

Particulars for grants 254

the seyd Indenture more att large dothe appere £VI XIIIs. IIIIa.

1539–1540

In 1539–1540, in the Patent Roll (687) 31 Henry VIII., Par. 2, m. 10 (25), is a grant to William Cavendish, one of the auditors of the Courts of Augmentation of the revenues of the Crown, and gentleman usher to Cardinal Wolsey, for 79 years, of the Priory of Cardigan at a rental of £6 13s. 4d., £10 to the Vicar of Cardigan and £6 to the late prior Thomas Hore, yearly.

Patent Roll (687) 31 Henry VIII., Par. 2, m. 10 (25).

(Translation.)

Grant in fee to William Cavendysshe esq. Margaret his wife and the heirs and assigns of said William of Cardigan Priory The King Know ye that we for the sum of seven hundred and sixty-nine pounds eight shillings and fourpence lawful money of England to the hands of the Treasurer of the Augmentations of the Revenues of our Crown to our use paid by our beloved William Cavendysshe esquire one of the auditors of our said Court of Augmentations of the Revenues of our Crown of our especial grace certain knowledge and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant to the same William Cavendysshe and Margaret his wife &c. (Lordships and manors of Northawe

Cuffeley Childewyke in Herts. Rectories Churches Chapels &c. &c.)

And further of our more abundant grace we give and for the consideration aforesaid by these presents do grant to the said William Cavendysshe and Margaret his wife all the house and site of the late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan in South Wales which said late priory cell or Rectory formerly belonged and appertained to the late Monastery of Chertsey in our County of Surrey and Bustlesham dissolved, &c. &c. and also all and all manner of pencions annuities or annual rents lately issuing and paid from the said Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan to the said Monastery of Chertsey and Bustlesham or either of them And all and all manner of our houses edifices dovehouses yards orchards gardens lands and soil being as well within as without the site sept ambit circuit and procinct of the said late Priory cell or Rectory of Cardigan And also our Rectories and churches of Cardigan Berwyke and Tremayne with all their members and appurtenances in South Wales aforesaid being parcels of the possessions of the said late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan and to the said late Monastery of Bisham sometime belonging and appertaining And the advowsons donations free dispositions and rights of patronage of the vicarages and churches of Cardigan Berwycke and Tremayne in South Wales aforesaid

M. 9 (26)

And all and all manner of houses landes glebes pensions portions tithes oblations obventions profits commodities and emoluments whatsoever to the said Rectories and Churches of Cardigan Berwycke and Tremayne or any of them belonging and appertaining And all and singular manors messuages lands tenements burgages mills meadows feedings pastures wood commons furze heathes wastes waters fisheries fishings rents reversions services tithes oblations pensions portions annuities knights fees escheats reliefs churches chapels advowsons rights of patronage and other our rights. jurisdictions privileges profits possessions and hereditaments whatsoever as well spiritual as temporal of whatsoever kind nature or species they may be or by whatsoever names they may be known deemed or acknowledged in Cardigan Berwyke and Tremayn in South Wales aforesaid and elsewhere wheresoever to the said late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan in any wise belonging and appertaining or as parcel of the lands rights or possessions of the said late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan heretofore had known accepted or reputed as being, &c. &c.

Habendum To have hold and enjoy the said late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan and all and singular the aforesaid lordships manors Rectory Churches chapels lands tenements advowsons and other all and singular the premises above expressed and specefied with the

appurtenances to the aforesaid William Cavendisshe and Margaret his wife and the heirs and assigns of the said William Cavendisshe for ever. To hold of us our heirs and successors in chief by the service of a tenth part of one knight's fee Yielding yearly to us our heirs and successors for the aforesaid Manors of Northawe Cuffeley and Childwicke, &c. & for the said late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan Berwyke and Tremayn and the aforesaid landes tenements and other the premises which belonged and appertained as is aforesaid to the late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan thirteen shillings and fourpence at our Court of Augmentations of the Revenues of our Crown at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel to be paid every year for all rents services and demands whatsoever therefore to us our heirs and successors in any wise to be yielded paid or done And further of our more abundant grace and for us our heirs and successors by these presents do grant unto the said William Cavendisshe and Margaret his wife and the heirs and assigns of the said William that we our heirs and successors for ever yearly and from time* will acquit discharge and save harmless the same William Cavendisshe and Margaret his wife &c. against us our heirs and successors and against whomsoever other persons of a certain annual pension or

Grants to pay yearly 13s. 4d.

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* *Sic*, "from time to time."

		£. s. d.
A.D. 1547-8	Chantry Certificate No. 74.	
40 The parishe of Cardigane	There is within the said parishe one Chauntrey callyd Mr. John ap Evan his Chauntrey Wheronto there be certeyne landes and tenementes aperteyning the whiche waire gyven by the said Mr. John ap Jevan to thententt to have a prest there to sing iiij^{or} masses in the weike for his sowle for ever, the yerely valew whereof more planely may appere by the Rentall the whiche amowntithe to the some of	VI. V. VIII wherof 6 5 8 7 5 18 8
Rentt Resolutt	IN RENTT Resolutt to the king his Majestie as lord of the Towne of Cardigan	VII^{s}.
	ET VALET ULTRA CLARE*	CXVIIIs. VIIId
41 Asyett the parishe of Cardigane	THERE IS within the said parishe one service called Our Lady Service wheronto there doith belong certeyne Landes and Tenementes the which of old tyme were gyven to thentent to fynd a prest to sing our Lady Masse in the parishe Churche of Cardigane the yerely valew therof as more planely may	xlv^{s}. whereof.

* That is, "And is worth beyond, clear."

appere by the Rentall amowntith to the Some of

IN RENT Resolute to the king his Majestie as yt may appere by the said Rentall — iiij^{s} iiij^{d} — *Rennt Resolute*

ET VALET ULTRA CLARE * — xl.s. viij.d.

the whiche one sir Phillipe ap Hoell being a very agid man hathe for his stipend having no perpetuyte therein.

THERE BE within the said parishe and belonging unto the said service one Challes of silver being valewid at lx.s. being laid to gage by the stipendarie preist to one William Morris for the some of liijs. iiijd. and so remanythe — vj.s. viij.d. — *Plate and Ornamentes*

THERE BE within the said parishe certeyne landes callid the seike mens landes the proffetes wherof one Griffith Sporriar doithe receyve by the signementt of the churche Wardens there for his wages being parishe Clerke of the said parishe but of olde time the same landes ware gyven to the fynding of certeyn poore men the yerely valewe wherof as more planely yt may appere by the Rentall amownting to the Some of — xxvjs. ijd. — *42 Asyett the parishe of Cardigane*

1552 In the Augmentation Office Deed of Exchange Edward VI. takes Cardigan Priory and all its appurtenances, &c., and other lands, from William Cavendish, granting him in exchange lands in the counties of Derby, Stafford, Lincoln, Nottingham, Surrey, Devon and Cornwall.

Augmentation Office, Deed of Exchange, H. 4.

Sir William Cavendish exchanges with the King (inter alia) the Priory of Cardigan, &c., for manors and lands in Derbyshire and other English counties.

A.D.1552 Indenture made the fifteenth day of June in the sixth year of Edward the Sixth (1552) between the King of one part and Sir William Cavendishe knight Treasurer of the King's chamber on the other part Witnesseth that the said Sir William * for divers considerations hereafter declared hath bargained and sold and by these presents fully bargaineth and selleth unto the said lord the King the Manor of Northawe otherwise Northall in the County of Hertford and messuages &c. in Northawe and Cuffeley &c.

And also all that his Scyte Cyrcuit compasse and procyncte of the late Pryory Cell or parsonage of Cardigan in South Wales with all and singular his rights membres and appurtenances And all and

* Dame Elizabeth, wife of Sir William, is mentioned in this deed.

singular his Messuages Houses buyldinges landes tenements Meadowes Fedinges Pastures Woods underwoods Tythes Oblations emoluments and heredytaments with all and singular their appurtenances to the sayd late pryory Cell or parsonage belonginge or in any wyse apperteyninge or knowen reputed taken used occupyed or letten as part parcell or membre of the same late Pryory Cell or parsonage &c. (Tollington in Lincoln also &c.) To have holde and enjoye the sayd capytall Mansyon house Manors Parsonage Messuages landes Tenements &c. Courtes leittes Tythes Oblatyons Advowsons patronage and alle and singular other the premysses with alle and singuler their appurtenances together with the sayde Evydences Writinges and Munymentes to our sayd Sovereigne lorde the Kynge his heires and Successors forever to thonlye and propre use and behofe of the same our Sovereigne lorde the Kynge his heires and Successors forever (covenants to secure the King's title &c.) In consideration of which Bargain and Sale and in full recompense and satisfaction of the said Manors Messuages Parsonages landes tenements tithes and other the premises the King is pleased to bargain and sell unto the said Sir William Cavendishe All that his grace's Manor of Meadowplecke and Rectory of Yolgrave in Co. Darby late *pcel* (priory cell or parcell?) of the possessions of the late Monastery of Leicester the Advowson of Yolgrave &c. in Counties

of Darby Stafford Lincoln Nottingham Surrey Devon Cornwall (at very great length)

In witnesse Wherof to thone parte of this Indenture remayning with our sayd Sovereigne lorde the Kinge The sayd Sir William Cavendyshe hath subscrybed hys name and setto hys seale And thother parte of the sayd Indenture remayning with the sayd Sir William Cavendishe our sayd sovereigne lorde the Kinge hath not onely signed the same with his most gracious hand but also hath caused hys greate Seale of England therunto to be put the day and yere fyrst above wrytten

Seal gone

Two very large skins of parchment (37 inches wide by 24 inches high), at the bottom of the first appears

p me Willm Cavendyssh

(i.e. Byrne William Cavendysshe)

CHAPTER VIII

A.D. 1609–1616

IN the Patent Roll (1810), 7 James I., Par. 22, No. 1, James I., King of England, granted to Francis Morrice and Francis Phelips of London, with lands in various counties in England, "all those our free chapels of Mount and Llecered, the third part of the Rectory of Berwicke, in return for money formerly paid to the King." *Sept. 25th 1609*

Patent Roll (1810), 7 James I., Par. 22, No. 1.

Grant to Francis Morrice and Francis Phelips and their heirs.

The King to all &c. Greeting Know ye that we at the especial petition nomination and request of our beloved subjects William Ryder Walter Cope Thomas Lake George Coppin Baptist Hicke William Smithe and Thomas Middleton knight Thomas Wayson William Cockaine Arthur Ingram John Bingley William Pitt and Francis Morrice who have well and faithfully paid to our use great sums of money at the Receipt of our Exchequer at Westmin- *(M. 11)*

ster before the date of these our letters patent whereof we confess that we are fully satisfied and paid and the said William Ryder Walter Cope &c. (as before named) thereof do acquit and discharge for ever by these presents as well as for other good causes & considerations us at present specially moving of our especial grace certain knowledge and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents for us our heirs & successors do give & grant to the aforesaid Francis Morrice and to Francis Phelips of London gentlemen their heirs and assigns for ever All that our Rectory & Church of Kirkby Fletcham in the County of York &c. &c. (in several counties)

(M. 13) And also all those our free Chapels of Mount and Llechered otherwise Ileghered in our county of Cardigan with all tithes &c. and all that third part of our Rectory of Barwicke otherwise Berwigge in the said County of Cardigan with all its rights members and appurtenances now or late in the tenure or occupation of Philip ap Jevan ap Roger or of his assigns by particular thereof of the yearly rent or value of eight pounds to the late Monastery of Talley formerly belonging or appertaining and parcel of the posses-

(M. 29) sions thereof formerly being (Here follow very many manors, rectories, &c. in England and Wales, also a general clause granting trees, woods, and underwoods and tithes, &c., courts leet, &c., &c.)

(M. 30) Advowsons of churches, chapels, and ecclesiastical

benefices are excepted, save those of Eye, Langford, Mynehedd and Skellingthorpe, &c., certain tithes also excepted.

To have hold and enjoy all and singular the aforesaid Rectories Churches Chantries &c. above expressed & specified &c. (except before excepted) to the said Francis Morrice & Francis Phelips & their heirs to the sole and proper use and behoof of the said Francis Morrice and Francis Phelips their heirs and assigns for ever To hold of us our heirs and successors as of our Manor of Est Greenewich in our County of Kent by fealty only in free and common socage and not in chief or by knight service Yielding and paying yearly to us our heirs and successors of and for the said Rectory of Kirkby Fletcham &c. &c.

And of and for the aforesaid third part of the *(M. 31)* Rectory of Barwicke otherwise called Berwigge aforesaid in the said County of Cardigan with the appurtenances eight pounds (here follow numerous other payments at great length) lawful money of England at the Receipt of the Exchequer at West- *(M. 39)* minster of us our heirs and successors or to the hands of the Bailiffs or Receivers of the premises for the time being at the feasts of Saint Michael the Archangel and Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by even portions yearly to be paid for ever

(Then M. 42) Witness the King at Westminster the twenty-fifth day of September.

By Writ of Privy Seal.

May 19, 1610 In the Patent Roll (1869), 8 James I., Par. 31, No. 3, is a grant to Francis Morrice and Francis Phelips and their heirs of Cardigan Priory and all its possessions in return for great sums of money paid to the King, the Priory being "formerly in the tenure of Robert Bestney, and formerly being parcel of the possessions of the College of Cardigan and afterwards of the lands lately exchanged by William Cavendish."

Patent Roll (1869), 8 James I., Par. 31, No. 3.

Grant to Francis Morrice and Francis Phelips and their heirs of (inter alia) Cardigan Priory.

The king to all to whom &c. Greeting Know ye that we at the especial petition nomination and request of our beloved subjects William Ryder Walter Cope Thomas Lake George Coppin Baptist Hickes William Smithe and Thomas Middleton knights Thomas Watson William Cockaine Arthur Ingram John Bingley William Pitt and Francis Morrice who have well and faithfully paid to our use great sums of money at the Receipt of our Exchequer at Westminster before the date of these our letters patent whereof we confess that we are fully satisfied and paid and the said William Rider Walter Cope &c. (as before named) thereof do acquit

and discharge for ever by these presents as well as for other good causes & considerations us at present specially moving of our especial grace certain knowledge and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents for us our heirs & successors do give & grant to the aforesaid Francis Morrice esquire and Francis Phelips gentlemen their heirs and assigns All that our Rectory and Church of Kingeston upon Thames with all its rights members and appurtenences in our County of Surrey &c. &c. (in several counties.)

And all that house site circuit & precinct of the late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan with all edifices structures dovehouses yards orchards gardens land soil all lands tenements meadow leazes pastures feedings woods underwoods mills fisheries & hereditaments with their appurtenances whatsoever demised accepted known reputed or occupied as part or parcel of the possessions of the said Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan aforesaid and with all & singular tithes fruits oblations pensions annuities and all rights emoluments and profits to the said Priory Cell or Rectory in any wise belonging or appertaining formerly in the tenure or occupation of Robert Bestney or his assigns by particular thereof of the annual rent or value of thirty four pounds formerly being parcel of the possessions of the College of Cardigan and afterwards parcel of the lands lately

exchanged by William Cavendishe knight with the late lord the King Edward the Sixth And all that our Rectory or parish church of Malros or Marlas or Marlos in the county of Pembroke, &c. &c. (Here follow many lands, &c., in several counties in England and Wales.)

(Clause granting woods, underwoods, timber and other trees, with the land and soil of the same. And also all messuages, mills, &c., tithes, &c., courts leet, &c., to the said Rectories, churches, chapels, &c., in any wise belonging or appertaining, &c., &c. ; certain advowsons are excepted, also certain tithes which are specifically named.)

To have hold and enjoy all & singular the aforesaid Rectories Churches Chantries Chapels tithes messuages burgages lands tenements meadows feedings pastures woods underwoods & trees Courts leet views of frankpledge profits commodities advantages emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever and other all and singular the premises above expressed & specified and by these presents before granted with all their rights members and appurtenances (except before excepted) to the aforesaid Francis Morrice and Francis Phelips their heirs and assigns to the sole & proper use and behoof of the said Francis Morrice & Francis Phelips their heirs and assigns for ever to hold of us our heirs & successors as of our Manor of Eastgreenewich in our County of Kent by fealty only in free and common

socage and not in chief or by knight service And yielding yearly to us our heirs and successors of and for the aforesaid Rectory and Church of Kingestone upon Thames &c. (here follow numerous payments) And of and for the aforesaid house site circuit and precinct of the aforesaid late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan and other the premises to the said Priory Cell or Rectory appertaining thirty four pounds (other payments follow at great length) lawful money of England at the Receipt of the Exchequer at Westminster of us our heirs and successors or to the hands of the Bailiffs or Receivers of the premises for the time being at the feasts of Saint Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by equal portions yearly to be paid for ever for all other rents services exactions and demands whatsoever therefor to us our heirs and successors in any wise to be yielded paid or done. (Much formal matter follows.)

In witness whereof, &c.

Witness the King at Westminster the nineteenth day of May (1610)

By Writ of Privy Seal.

The Patent Roll (2107), 14 James I., Par. 18, No. 8, grants to George Phelips the Priory of Cardigan with all its possessions and all those our rectories and churches of Cardigan, Berwick and Tremayne. *28 June 1616*

A.D.1616 (Translation) Patent Roll (2107), 14 James I., Par. 18, No. 8.

Grant to George Phelips (Phelipps) of the Priory of Cardigan in South Wales.

Of the grant to George Phelips and his heirs

The King to all whom, &c., Greeting: Know ye that we as well at the humble petition nomination and request of our well-beloved and faithfull Counsellor Thomas Lake knight one of our private Secretaries and of our beloved subjects George Copin Baptist Hickes William Smithe Thomas Midleton Richard Grobham Arthur Ingram William Cockaine knights Thomas Watson John Bingley William Pitt and Francis Morrice esquires who together with William Ryder Anthony Cope and Walter Cope knights deceased have well and faithfully paid to our use great sums of money at the receipt of our Exchequer at Westminster before the date of these our letters patent whereof we confess that we are fully satisfied and paid and the same Thomas Lake George Copin &c. (as above) to be acquitted and discharged thereof for ever by these presents as for divers other good causes and considerations us at present especially moving of our especial grace certain knowledge and mere motion have given and granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do give and grant to our beloved subject George Phelips esquire his heirs and assigns for ever all that the late Priory Cell and Rectory of Cardigan with all its rights

members and appurtenances And all that house site circuit and precinct of the said Priory Cell and Rectory of Cardigan And all the houses edifices structures dovehouses yards orchards gardens land soil and all messuages lands tenements meadows leasows pastures feedings woods underwoods mills fisheries and hereditaments with the appurtenances whatsoever as well within as without the site circuit and precinct of the said late Priory Cell and Rectory of Cardigan demised accepted known reputed or occupied as part or parcel of the possessions of the said late Priory Cell and Rectory of Cardigan or any one of them And all and singular tithes fruits oblations obventions pensions portions annuities rights royalties casualties emoluments and profits to the said Priory Cell and Rectory or any one of them in any wise belonging or appertaining And also all those our Rectories and Churches of Cardigan Berwicke otherwise Verwicke and Tremeyne otherwise Tremayne with all their rights members and appurtenances in our County of Cardigan aforesaid parcels of the lands and possessions exchanged by William Cavendish knight with the lord the late king Edward the Sixth and being before parcels of the possessions of the said late Priory Cell and Rectory of Cardigan or any of them And all & all manner of houses edifices glebe lands pensions portions tithes oblations obventions profits commodities emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever to the

said Rectories and Churches of Cardigan Berwicke otherwise Verwicke and Tremeyne otherwise Tremayne or any of them belonging and appertaining

(Here follows a very ample clause, granting timber and other trees, woods, underwoods, with land and soil of the same, tithes of all kinds, etc. etc. Another clause granting to G. P. his heirs and assigns for ever the right to hold courts leet, views of frankpledge, and all other rights in as ample a form and manner as any Abbot or Prior of the late Priory of Cardigan or Sir Wm. Cavendishe or any other or others having, possessing or seised of the said Priory Cell, Rectory and other the premises above by these presents granted heretofore had, held or enjoyed or ought to have, hold or enjoy the same.)

Habendum

To have hold and enjoy the said Priory Cell Rectories churches* tithes messuages lands tenements meadows feedings pastures rents revenues woods underwoods and trees Courts leet views of frankpledge commodities advantages emoluments & hereditaments whatsoever and other all & singular the premises above expressed & specified and by these presents before granted with all their rights members liberties & appurtenances to the aforesaid George Phelipps his heirs & assigns to the sole and proper use and behoof of the said George Phelipps his heirs

* All advowsons of churches, chapels, and ecclesiastical benefices *wholly reserved* to the King.

& assigns for ever To hold of us our heirs & successors as of our Manor of Eastgreenewich in our County of Kent by fealty only in free and common socage and not in chief or by knight service And yielding therefor yearly to us our heirs & successors thirty four pounds lawful money of England at the Receipt of the Exchequer at Westminster of us our heirs & successors or to the hands of the Bailiffs or Receivers of the premises for the time being at the feasts of St. Michael the Archangel and of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by equal portions to be paid for ever for all other rents services exactions and demands whatsoever therefor to us our heirs or successors in any wise to be yielded paid or done (Here follows formal matter of no interest, beyond being purely legal) In witness whereof etc. Witness the King at Westminster the twenty-eighth day of June By Writ of Privy Seal etc. *28 June 1661*

In the Patent Roll (1869), 8 James I, Part 31, No. 3, is a reference to the "College" of Cardigan. Meyrick also refers to the "College" of Cardigan Patron Saint April 25th (St. Mark).

Several old maps and pictures of Cardigan also mark the "College" in the Priory Grounds. This has reference to the Benedictines following, amongst the various avocations of their order, the calling of teachers, and having a college for the instruction of the youth of the neighbourhood.

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CHAPTER IX

A.D. 1610–1695

WILLIAMS, in his "Parliamentary History of the Principality of Wales" (1895), states that James Philipps, b. 1594, of Terragibby and Cardigan Priory, eldest son of George of Tregibby (vide grant of 1616, p.30, etc.)

1610 (*aged 16*) Married, 1st to Frances, daughter of Sir R. Picton, Bt., of Picton, Pem.

1647 „ 2nd to Katherine, daughter of John Fowler, a wealthy merchant of London.

„ 3rd to Anne, daughter of Sir R. Rudd, Bt., of Abergasney, Co. Carmarthen.

His second wife, Katherine, was the celebrated Orinda, authoress of the "Letters to Poliarchus" (Sir Chas. Cotterell), a volume of poems, and of several plays. Four of her letters to Poliarchus, in 1662, were written from the Priory. A letter of hers in 1663 to Poliarchus announces his election as M.P.

for Cardigan, through the influence of her husband. The letter is as follows :*

"Give me leave, Sir, to tell you what I know you have heard from Antenor already, that he intreats you to accept of an Election to be Burgess for the town of CARDIGAN, which he would not mention to you till 'twas past, because he was resolv'd not to expose you to a Repulse; nor had you ever been nam'd but that he found himself able to carry it for you against all the World. You are chosen upon the Poll by 118 Votes, all of them allow'd by our Antagonists themselves to have right to elect. If any of the other Party should endeavour to insinuate that they quietly submitted to it, merely out of respect to you, pray let them know, that you are sufficiently inform'd, they did all they could to oppose you, and that it was carry'd purely by ANTENOR'S single Interest. I hope all those who were the greatest Sticklers against him will now be convinced that after all their Contrivences to asperse his Person and baffle the Election, he is not yet the despicable thing in his own Country that they would represent him to be. He hopes you will not despise this little Instance, since 'tis all his Misfortunes have left him capable to give, of his Esteem and Gratitude to you; for whom I am certain he has as profound a Respect

* "Letters from Orinda to Poliarchus," London, 1705, 8vo, Letter xxviii., p. 132.

and Veneration as for any man living. I know you are not fond of being a Parliament Man; yet since you are elected so much without your seeking, that I am sure it was not so much as thought of by you; and since it was intended as a Testimony to the eternal Value and Friendship that ANTENOR and ORINDA must ever have for the noble POLIARCHUS, I hope he will not be angry to be sent into the House without his own Consent, or Knowledge. The Truth is, ANTENOR and myself always intended it, but were not willing to tell you so, till we saw what Forces our Enemies were like to muster up against us; and had they been likely to have been too powerful for ANTENOR to cope with, your Name had never been mention'd: But when he saw the Affections of the Town so unanimous for him, he recommended you to them as a Person fit to be their Representative in Parliament; and as I am inform'd by some who heard him, made a very handsome Speech in the Face of the Country, and declared himself in such a manner as became a Gentleman, who neither could fear his Enemies, nor abandon his Country's Services. Since you have this Relation to a place where our little Fortune and Interest lies, I hope it will be a new Tie in our Friendship and that ANTENOR will by this means have sometimes the Honour of hearing from you, which I know he will value as from the Man whose

Acquaintance he most covets. And if any happy Providence make an Overture for our coming near you, he may then contract that Intimacy with you, which next to my own Happiness in your Conversation, which is now become necessary to the Satisfaction of my Life, is one of my most aspiring Wishes in this World. But now you are a Member of Parliament, love be to you for Letters; for if possible, I will increase that Persecution, since you will have but half the Inconvenience of them to excuse, I mean, the Trouble, not the Charges. And to say Truth I have mightly considered those two Points, have I not? ROSANIA was not so good as her word, in letting me hear from her by the Post you told me I should, and pray tell her I am scarce in Charity with her, for being so very a Recreant as never to be constant in maintaining a Correspondence, on which she knows I set so high a Value. You see, dear POLIARCHUS, that when I am writing to you, I never know when to leave off; I am sure I have tir'd you with this Scribble, which asks your Patience only till it has told you that no body in all the World is more faithfully your Friend than, &c.

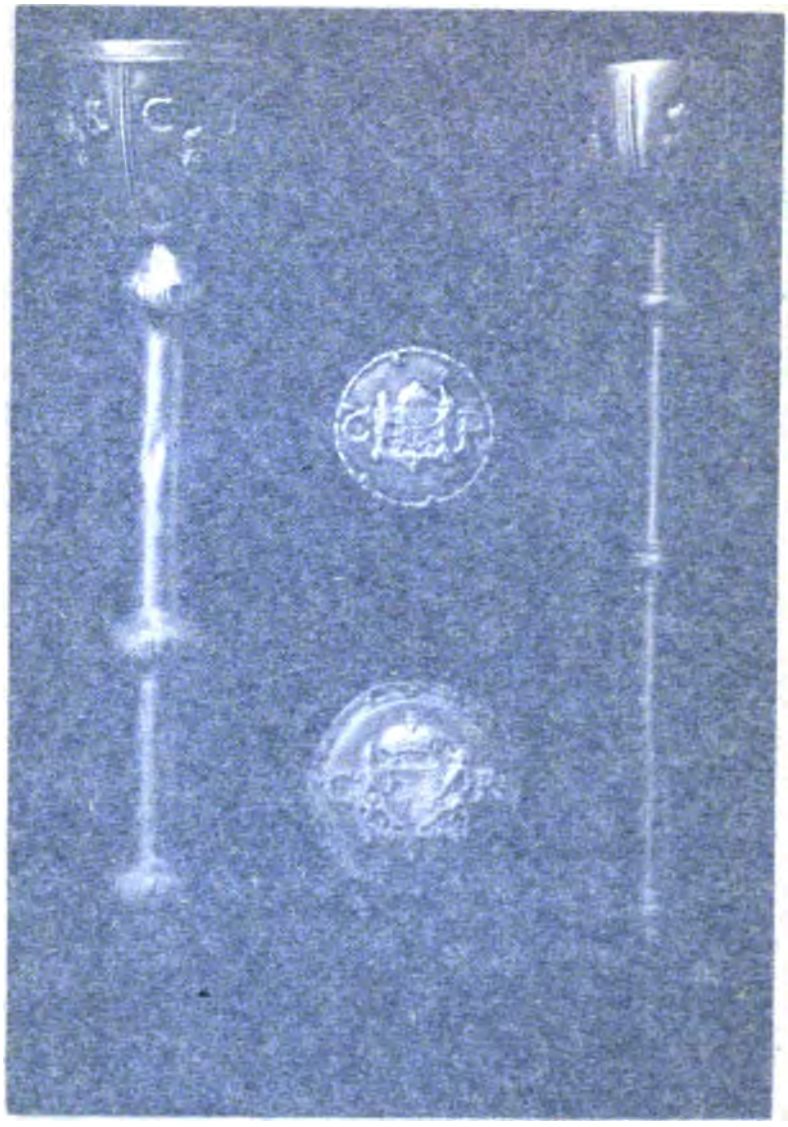
Orinda.

April 18, 1663.

Orinda died in 1664 of smallpox in Fleet Street, London. James Phillips was High Sheriff for the

County in 1649 and his brother Hector was High Sheriff in 1634. James Phillips was M.P. for the County 1654–5 and 1659, and M.P. for the Counties of Pembroke and Cardigan 1656, and for Pembroke only till 1658, for the boro' of Cardigan in 1659 and 1661 and 2. His brother Hector Phillips lived at the Priory after Col. Phillips' death, and was M.P. for the boro' of Cardigan in 1679 and died in 1693. Hector was several times Mayor of Cardigan, and both brothers were noted for hunting down Royalists. James Phillips was also a Colonel in the Parliamentary Army. (Their mother lived after their father's death at Portheiynon.)

The Corporation of Cardigan possess two old silver maces. The larger mace has a head like a goblet, with a moveable cover, and is $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter and three inches long, with a silver handle ten inches long, screwed into an ebony handle, fourteen inches in length. The head of the smaller is similar but is $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches in diameter and the same lengths throughout. Each cover bears the Royal Arms with "C" on the left side and "R" on the right side of the arms. The smaller cover had the date 1647 scratched on it beneath the arms. The sides of the bowls are panelled and contain respectively the rose, thistle, harp and fleur de lys in bold relief, each surmounted by a crown, and on the larger are also the raised letters "C" "R" in each



County in 1644 and his brother [illegible]
Sheriff in 1654. James Phillips [illegible]
County in 1654–5 and 1659, and [illegible]
of Treglyske and Cardigan 1661, [illegible]
Cardigan 1695, [illegible]
1701 and [illegible]
the Priory [illegible]
of the [illegible]
His [illegible]
[illegible] ther
[illegible] head
[illegible] a
[illegible] ebony han[illegible]
[illegible] The head of the [illegible]
[illegible] inches in diameter and [illegible]
lengths throughout. Each cover bears [illegible]
A.W. with "C" on the left side and [illegible] the
right side of the arms. The smaller [illegible] the
date 1647 scratched on it beneath [illegible] The
sides of the bowls are panelled and [illegible]
spectively the rose, thistle, harp and [illegible] lys in
bold relief, each surmounted by [illegible]
larger are also the raised letter[illegible]

Maces and their covers bearing the Royal Arms and C.R. King Charles belonging to the Corporation of Cardigan, supposed to have been given by Cromwell to Col. James Phillipps of the Priory and by him presented to the Corporation, 164?

panel. The silver handle of the larger is inscribed as follows :—"Domum Jacobi Phillipps de Tregibby in Comitatu Cardigan Armigeri Dedit burgo Cardigan Anⁿ domi 1647." Both maces were the gift of Col. Phillips, and tradition says were given to him by Cromwell. They have no arms of the town or crest of the Phillips' upon them, and undoubtedly belonged to Charles I. 1647 is evidently the date of their presentation. The first view of them suggests the idea of drinking cups with their bases cut off and ebony handles affixed instead. It was probably shortly after Col. Phillips presented these to the town that he married his second wife, the Matchless Orinda as she is called, and removed to the Priory. She was born in 1631, and died at the early age of 33. Amongst her friends were Sir C. Cottrell, Jeremy Taylor, Dryden, Cowley, Lord Roscommon, &c. Col. Phillipps was one of the six Welshmen summoned to Barebones' Parliament. The last entry of his name in the books of the Corporation of Cardigan was on January 20, 1672. He was descended from Sir Thomas Phillips,* Knt., of Picton Castle, Pembrokeshire. Three years after the election of Sir Charles Cottrell as M.P. for the Borough of Cardigan one finds entered in the books of the Corporation of Cardigan the copy of a letter

* "Notes and Queries," March 15, 1858, p. 202.

written by Hector Phillipps, then Mayor of Cardigan, to Sir Charles Phillipps:

A Copy of a letter sent to Sir Charles Cotterell K^t^ the Burgess now in Parliamentt for this Corporation.*

Worthy Sir

That wee have been thus long in presenting you with the gratefulle sense Reteyned, borne of your wonderfull and oblidginge goodness is but suitable to the greatness of the benefitt received, which indeede wee are att a losse] to know how to expresse, much lesse capable of rendring the Thankes due to your meritt in its obteinment.

Surely noe word can ever commend you sufficient prayse of your Industry in procuring oure Ease from such an inequality of Tax, as the burden half made us even groan out our Ruines, whereas since oure Towne is not only preserved but begins to flourish and in a little more time hopes to reward your Slavery after the Grotian manner of commemorating their benefactore. As A pattern for all noble Spirittes to Imitate your promotion of the Good of their Countrey, haveing been the founder of oure Recovery—In the Interim all our Corporattion, neighborhood, and the whole Countrey's prayers are that prosperity may wayte on all your affairs, and if

* This letter is an exact copy from the Corporation Book, only the contracted words have been written in full.

it be in any or all oure Capacitye to Contribute thereto, As you may Justly challenge their Command, Soe most freely please to Dispose of us as one man

Sr

Your most faithfull most obleidged and most affectionate friende and Servantte,

Signed G. Hector Phillipps, maior, & for rest of Comon Counsell in the name of the Corporatton.

Datt September VIth, 1666

Sir Charles Cottrell addressed a letter* to Mr. James Phillipps on November 9th, 1675; he was evidently dead when it was received ten days later in Cardigan, as it was read by the Mayor and Corporation, copied into their Book and then the original forwarded to his brother, Hector Phillipps. The following entry and letter are copied from the Corporation Book:

Att A Counsell held the nineteenth day of November Anno Dom. 1675 before Thomas Lewis Mayor &c.

Uppon the reading of a letter this day, before the Counsel, directed from Sir Charles Cottrell Kt our

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* *Vide* old Record Book of the Corporation of Cardigan.

P^sent Burgess in parliament. It is thought fitt by Mayor & Counsell that the same be registered, & the Originall reserved for Mr. Hector Phillipps to whom it hath relacon, and a letter of thanks be forthwith sent by the Mayor & Counsell to S^r Charles.

The copy of the letter accompanying it is also inscribed in the Corporation books.

Copy of a letter from Sir Chas. Cottrell ffor his much respected friend James Phillipps Esq. att the Priory of Cardigan November 9 1675.

Sir

I have so fresh a remembrance of y^e obligacon I have to yo^u and by yo^r favour to the Borrow of Cardigan that I think my self ingaged to give yo^u some account of our transactions in the parl^t when anything passes where yo^u have a particular Conserne. Our late sessions have by reason of prorogations, been so ineffectuall, that there was nothing found in them att all, & the opp'tunities I had of giving yo^r brother Hector, then in Towne, by whome yo^u were fully informed of all that passed, as I was also of yo^r health & the welfare of yo^r Towne which I much wish, makes me think it the less necessary to give yo^u this kinde of Trouble. But not having seene him in London this Winter, nor had any other means to heare of yo^u, my desire to know how yo^u doe, as well as to informe yo^u what wee are doing, is the cause of

these lines. I know you will heare by common report as much as I can write, for all things in agitation are publique enough, but being trusted with yo^r purses, I think when wee open them you may expect to heare of that from me. The King in his Speech pressed a Supply, to take off some anticipations uppon the revenue & for the building of Shipps, the former part is utterly denyed, and for the other wee have after many long debates, found it absolutely necessary to doe something and therefore have last night finished the resolve of giving eighteene months taxe (at the fourth parte of the last for 120000£) to make up the sume of 300000£ for the building of 20 Shipps of the first, second and third rank, & towards the furnishing them with guns. The time of first payment will not be known till the Bill be brought in, which will shortly be p^epared, and will appointe the money so to that use, that it may not be diverted to any other. The question was whether this money should be raised by land taxe or subsidie; Mr. Vaughan & I were for the latter. But upon division of the Comittee of the whole house, the land taxe carryed it. But with this vote to make amende, that there shal be no inord. money given for any other occasion this session—so that now you know the worst wee shall doe; And I hope you shall also finde (if the Lords disturb us not by renewing the old dispute) that wee shall get some Bills assented to

by his Ma^tie that will fully satisfie y^ou for the charge wee have laid uppon you and the rest of ye nation,—for the . . . .* whereof I shall contribute my small assistance; there being nothing in hand for the serving our Religious liberties and properties, that shall not have the full concurrence of

S^r

Your most humble servant
Charles Cottrell

London November 9th 1675
I hope Mrs. Wogan & yo brother are
in good health & desire they may
receive my service.

The endorsement of the letter

ffor his much respected friend James Phillipps Esq. at the Priory off Cardigan

Leave this with the postmaster of Brecknock to be sent

Charles Cottrell frank^d

In 1669 the Exchequer of Pleas Plea Roll gives a curious account of John Hardy, who held the Priory on lease for 36 years, together with a full list of its lands and appurtenances, and thereby shows that Col. James Phillipps had given up living at the Priory then. In 1663 Orinda writes from there, and in 1675 Sir Charles Cottrell addresses a letter to him

* Illegible.

there, as that the lease for 36 years to Mr. John Hardy must have been broken.

Exchequer of Pleas. Plea Roll *A.D.*
Trinity 21 Charles II Membrum 28 *1669*

Concerning the Manor and Priory of Cardigan the Rectories of Cardigan Tremayne & Verwicke &c. leased for thirty-six years to John Hardy

Pleas before the Barons of Exchequer at Westminster of the term of Holy Trinity in the twenty-first year of the reign of Charles * the Second by the grace of God &c. king & Defender of the Faith &c.

John Hardy comes before the Barons the twenty fifth day of June this term by Richard Ogden his attorney & complains by bill against John Stacy present here in Court on the same day of a plea of trespass and ejectment because Whereas Francis Hacker on the first day of June in the twenty-first year of the now king at Cardigan demised to the said John Hardy the manor of Cardigan and the Priory of Cardigan with the appurtenances and also the Rectories of Cardigan Tremayne and Verwicke with the appurtenances sixty messuages, four water cornmills, thirty stables, 40 gardens, 12 orchards, four thousand acres of land, one thousand acres of meadows, 2,000 acres of pasture, 20 acres wood & *Cardigan* *First of June 1669* *(9th year or 1681)*

* Counting from the death of Charles I.

5,000 acres of furze & heath with the appurtenances in Cardigan, Tremayne, Verwicke & Llangoedmor in the said county of Cardigan To have and to hold the Manor Rectories & tenements aforesaid with the appurts. to the said John Hardy & his assigns from the tenth day of May then last past to the end and term of thirty six years then next ensuing and fully to be completed By virtue of which demise the said John Hardy entered into the Manor Rectories and tenements aforesaid and was possessed thereof until the said John Stacy afterwards to wit, on the same first day of June in the year aforesaid by force and arms entered the said manor &c. and ejected the said John Hardy therefrom and other wrongs to him did against the peace of the lord the king and to the damage of him the said John Hardy of twenty Pounds &c. And thereof he brings his suit &c.

AND the said John Stacy by Thomas Arden his attorney comes and defends &c. &c.

(Adjournments are made to Michaelmas and then to Hilary terms. At length) John Stacy says nothing in bar or preclusion of the action of John Hardy Therefore it is considered by the Barons that the said John Hardy do recover against the said John Stacy his term aforesaid yet to come and of and in the Manor Rectories & tenements aforesaid

No defence

Judgment

And thereupon John Hardy remits to John Stacy

his damages adjusted here by the Court Therefore let John Stacy be quit of those damages

The official description of the foregoing is to this effect :—

John Hardy obtains a judgment by confession against John Stacy for ejectment from the Manor and the Priory of Cardigan and the Rectories of Cardigan, Tremayne and Verwicke, demised to the plaintiff by Francis Hacker 1 June 21 Car. II., for thirty-six years. *(1681)*

NOTE. In Exchequer Bills, Answers &c. Cardigan, Charles II., No. 5, is a Bill * dated Hilary, 25–25 Chas. II. (1672–3), of Francis Hacker of London, gent., who was in the year one thousand six hundred and seventy one seised of three tenements in the parishes of Cardigan and Verwicke in the County of Cardigan, commonly called by the names *A.D.* $1673\frac{2}{3}$

Tir y Gibby
Cappell
and the White Davy

upon which corn was growing in the said year or several sorts, as wheat, rye, barley, oats, and pease and also a great quantity of meadow ground, whereon in the same year grew a great quantity of grass. Orator living at a distance by his agent, one Richard Jones, then of the town of Brecon gentleman, employed one John

* No other document.

Davies of the town of Cardigan to reap and harvest the said corn and to mow the grass and convert it into hay and afterwards to sell and dispose of the said corn and hay to Orator's best advantage, for which said agent did agree with said John Davies to pay a considerable sum for his pains. Said John Davies in pursuance of agreement did reap and cut down the corn and grass, and sold the same to persons unknown to Orator for one hundred pounds and upwards, which he ought to have paid to Orator Now said Davies refuses to state how much the corn and hay were worth and to give satisfaction for the same.

He therefore prays for the king's writ of Subpoena under the seal of the Court to be directed to said John Davies to appear and answer the premises.

Hector Phillipps also lived at the Priory after his brother's death till 1695. Hector Phillipps is often mentioned during this period as of the Priory, and yet we have mention in the Pleas Court Roll of John Hardy residing there during that time, and inheriting it in 1681 for a term of 36 years. Then in the Corporation Books for several years we see an Edward Phillipps, Esq., who was sometimes Mayor sometimes Coroner, and who was probably a son of Hector Phillipps. At what date it passed into the hands of the Pryces of Gogerthan there is no trace.

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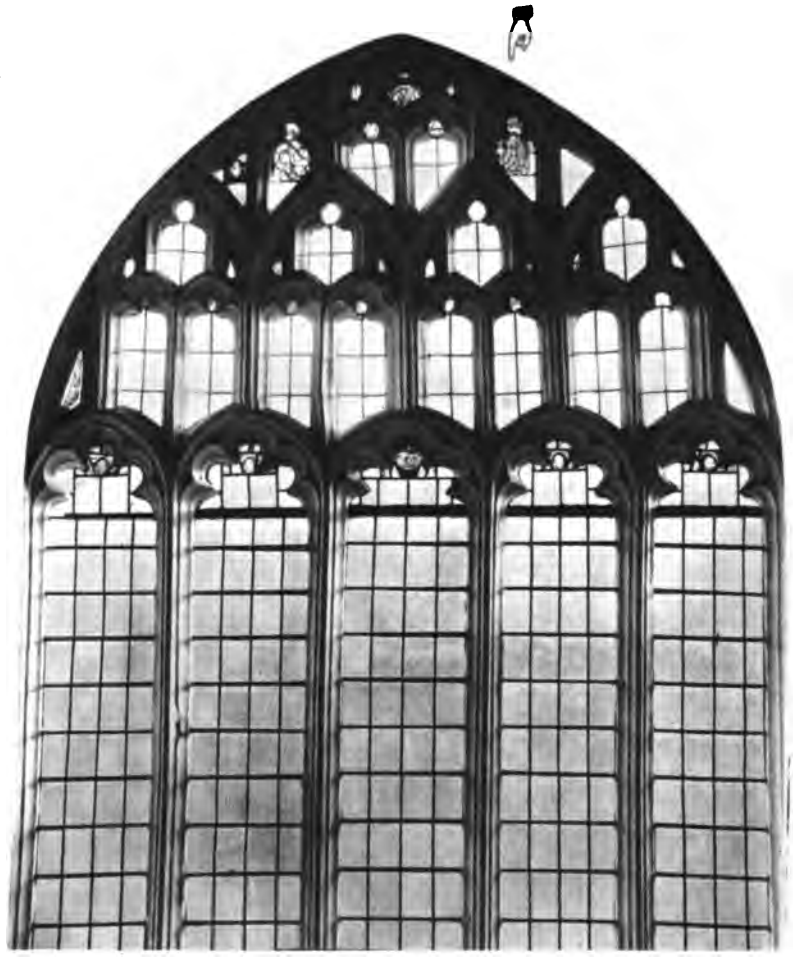


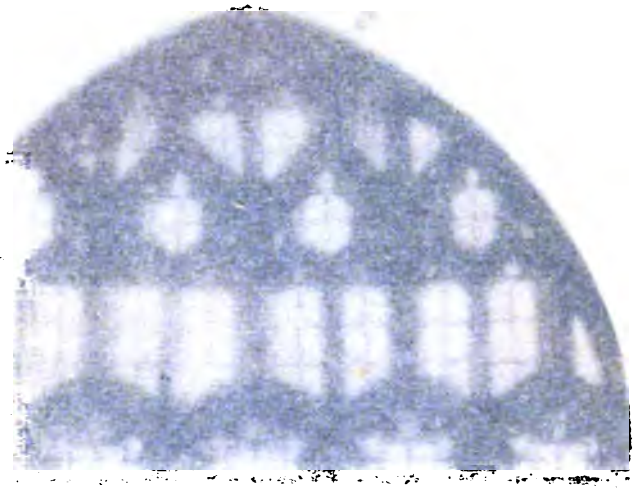
East Window, Priory Church of Cardigan
The hand points to the inverted Arms of Canterbury.

1745
1744
12 Mar. 4

1744

1816

[illegible] Johns is also noted for the fact
[illegible] abetted a theft, inasmuch as he
[illegible] glass in the east end window of
[illegible] Mary's, [illegible] out



CHAPTER X

A.D. 1744–1904

THE will of Thomas Pryce of Gogerthan proves him to have been owner of the Priory at that date. *1745* *1744* *12 March*

At the death of John Hugh Pryce of Gogerthan and Cardigan Priory, the latter was sold to Thomas Johns, father of Colonel Thomas Johns of Havod* (the translator and printer of Froissart's Chronicles). The father lived here and was Lord Lieutenant of Cardiganshire, and died in 1816 (vide Robert Williams' "Biographical Dictionary," 1852, p. 251). Col. Johns is also noted for the fact that he aided and abetted a theft, inasmuch as he bought the painted glass in the east end window of the Church of St. Mary's, and took it nearly all out and transported it to his valuable library at Havod near Aberystwith, where it and the whole library were destroyed by fire the following year. The pre- *1744*

* Near Aberystwith, Cardiganshire.

sent window in Cardigan Church, of the early perpendicular period, was probably put up in remembrance of Archbishop Baldwin preaching the Crusade, as among the few ancient pieces of glass remaining after the removal by Col. Johns are the "arms of Canterbury," placed wrong side upwards in the window; tradition has it that a "cardinal in his robes" was represented in this window; perchance it may have been the Archbishop himself, as the arms of Canterbury are still left, and that in the descent of the story from father to son the word "Cardinal" may have been substituted for "Archbishop"; this same tradition also states "the crimson colouring in the window was very fine"—and probably this tradition is correct, as it is little over 120 years since this window was taken away from the Church.

Supporting the old chancel arch on the north side is a crowned female head, wearing beneath the crown the headdress only in vogue during the reign of Henry VI. This proves conclusively that it is the head of his Queen, Margaret of Anjou, who was much beloved by the Welsh, and who, for several years, took refuge in Wales with various devoted adherents of the Lancastrians.

Supporting the south side of the old chancel arch is a very curious and interesting head. It is that of a man, with a fine profile, the forefinger of his right hand pointing to his right eye; in ecclesias-

Heads in the Chancel of the Priory Church.

This head illustrates the Parable of the "Mote and Beam" and also carvings. It supported the S. side of the old Chancel Arch, and is half built into the present Arch.

The head of Margaret of Anjou, wife of Henry VI. It supported the N. side of the old Chancel Arch and is half built into the present Arch.

tical architecture this is significant of the parable of
he Beam and the Mote; various Churches in France
e similar heads, and in *one* (I think it is Arle) this
more pointed, the "mote" being represented by
f stone an inch long projecting from the eye.
rn to this head in Cardigan Church, the
of the right hand is pulling the corner
ack, usually regarded as the symbol
in its entirety probably belonged
the life of the founder of the
hance some of the people of
ng motes in his character,
self to be represented as
them.
n the Priory to the
ance therein by a
f the chancel,
walled in on

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Heads in the Chancel of the Rivere Church.

This head illustrates the Parable of the "Mote and Beam" and also carvings. It supported the S. side of the old Chancel Arch, and is half built into the present Arch.

The head of Margaret of Anjou, wife of Henry VI. It supported the N. side of the old Chancel Arch and is half built into the present Arch.

CARDIGAN PRIORY

Architecture this is significant
the Beam and the Mote; various
have similar heads, and more
still more pointed, the
a piece of stone

To return
second
of the
for
entirety probably
of the founder of
of the people
by a
of
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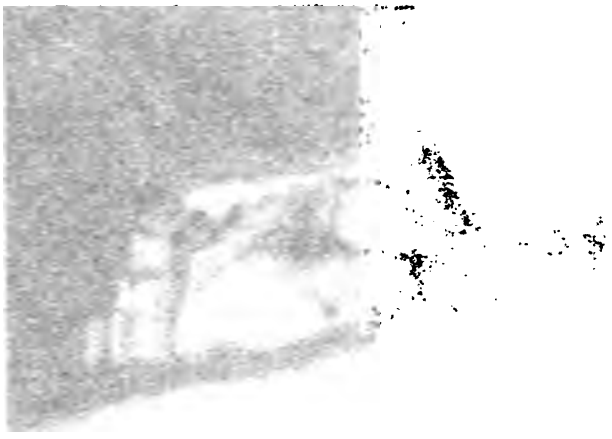
gateway of
verified by the



tical architecture this is significant of the parable of the Beam and the Mote; various Churches in France have similar heads, and in *one* (I think it is Arle) this is still more pointed, the "mote" being represented by a piece of stone an inch long projecting from the eye.

To return to this head in Cardigan Church, the second finger of the right hand is pulling the corner of the mouth back, usually regarded as the symbol for sneering; this in its entirety probably belonged to some episode in the life of the founder of the present chancel. Perchance some of the people of that day had been finding motes in his character, so that he has caused himself to be represented as sneering at these motes, or at them.

There was a covered way from the Priory to the Church of St. Mary, with an entrance therein by a small door in the south-east corner of the chancel, which door is still there, though now walled in on the outside.

The Priory Garden used to extend from the end of the greenhouse to the present south porch of St. Mary's, and this portion is still called "yr hen ardd" (the old garden) by some of the old people, and was given to the Church by a preceding owner.

According to the old Ordnance Survey maps of 1827, the main entrance to the Priory was on the west side, close to the present west iron gateway of the Churchyard. This has been verified by the

present owner, when four years ago an old cottage and garden on the west side of the Priory were taken, on the death of its occupant, into the Priory garden.* When laying out this garden a bed was planned against the Churchyard wall, where a fruit house now stands; it was too hard to dig, and on using a pick-axe a solid road bed 2 ft. deep was discovered.

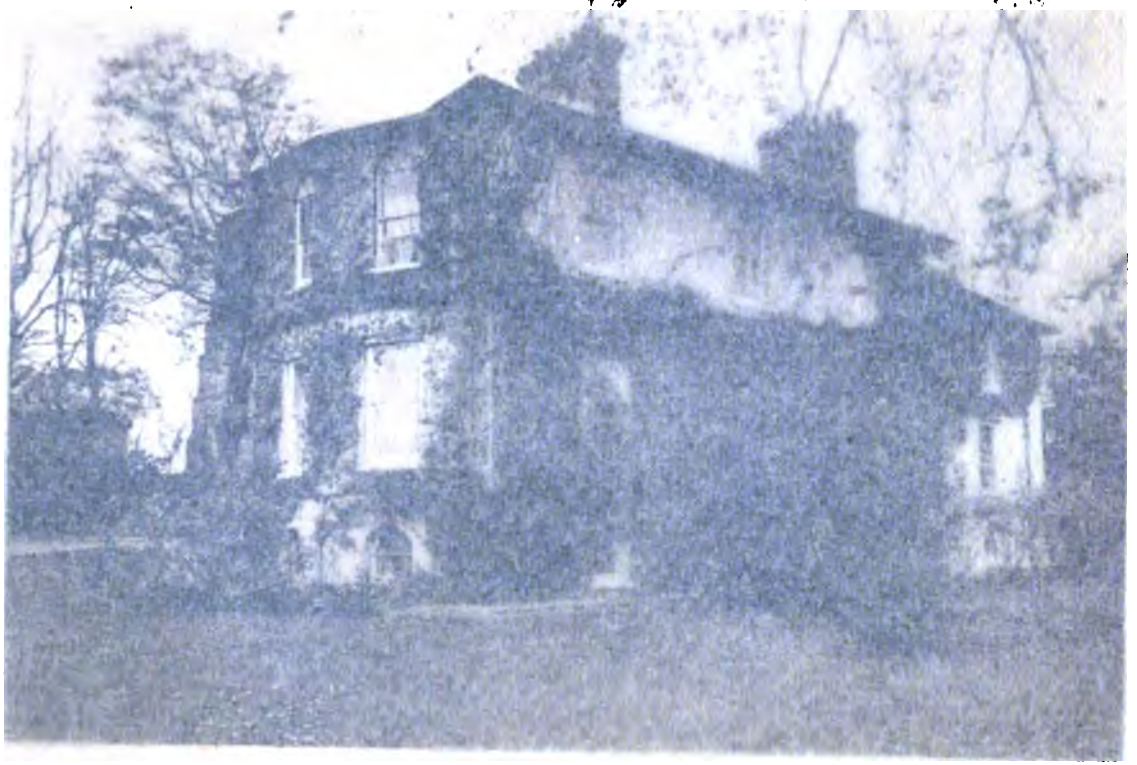
The basement of the present house built on rock is the remains of the old Benedictine Priory. The walls are 2′ 7″ thick on the south front and 2′ 8″ thick on the east side.

The seven windows (S. and E.) in this basement are all round arched; in the new part of the house, all windows being pointed or square headed. This would indicate that the Priory was built before 1125. The room facing S. with three south windows and one east (window 3′ 1″ high by 3′ 4″ wide) is undoubtedly the old refectory, size 26′ × 18″; one should here notice the old chimney place.

Behind the refectory on the east side of the house one comes to the old buttery with one window 3′ 2″ high by 3′ 8″ wide, with a cellar adjoining, with one east window 3′ 2″ × 3′ 2″.

On the west side of the passage is a wine cellar and beer cellar, both vaulted; and the old semi-

* This cottage is one of the old Priory buildings; wall from 3 ft. to 3 ft. 7 in. thick, measured by self when alterations were made in it.—E. M. P.



Heads in the Chancel of the Peirce Church.

This head illustrates the Parable of the "Mote and Beam" and also swearing. It supported the S. side of the old Chancel Arch, and is half built into the present Arch.

The head of Margaret of Anjou, wife of Henry VI. It supported the N. side of the old Chancel Arch and is half built into the present Arch.

Cardigan Priory

Showing in the basement the old windows of the Priory founded by Gilbert de Clare, AD IIII.

Cardigan Priory

Showing in the basement the old windows of the Priory founded by Gilbert de Clare, AD MCC.

The second well adjoined the cow-shed on the north in the stable yard, and was also filled in by Mr. Jenkins, on account of the water being unfit to drink. This sealed and rimmed well was discovered a year ago by Mr. Pritchard, when making some alterations, and was seen by all his family, servants and labourers.

The Priory evidently decreased in size and importance after the reign of Henry VI., perchance through the monks taking the side of Henry of Lancaster (as evidenced by the head of Margaret of Anjou supporting the north side of the old chancel arch in the Priory Church of St. Mary's). As in Henry VIII.'s time there were but two monks, according to Leland.

On what is now the embankment in the time when Mr. Miles owned the Priory Mr. Harry Miles picked up two cannon balls, these cannon balls are declared to have been fired from the cannons of Cromwell's army when they were attacking Cardigan Castle, which they are reported to have left in ruins—and which was still in ruins in 1804, see Malkin.

Dugdale 1817, vol. 4, p. 584

"Colonel Thomas Johns disposed of this estate some years ago to the late Marquis of Lansdowne; but the purchase not being completed, it was sold to Richard Hart Davies, the present owner (1817)," and from him to Mr. Miles, banker, Bristol (1836)

and from his grandson, in 1897, to the present owner, John W. Pritchard.

Meyrick in his "Cardiganshire" (1810) states, P. 46: "Cardigan Coll. Patron Saint April 25": On p. 100 is a copy of Giraldus; p. 104 states that "Cardigan Priory, when cell to Chertsey, was valued at £13 4s. 9d."

Tanner's "Notitia Monasticon"—same as above. *1789*

With reference to this statement of Dugdale, there must be a slight error, as Malkin speaks of Mr. Bowen owning the Priory in 1804, the date of the publishing of his "Scenery, Antiquities and Biographies of South Wales;" and an old resident * in Cardigan says "that his father always told him that Mr. Bowen built the present house on the basement walls of the old Priory, 1808,—John Nash, who built the Quadrant in Regent Street, London, being the architect. By the Corporation Book Mr. Bowen died in 1809.

Malkin says: "There was formerly a priory here; and the delightful vicinity of the river side still retains something of a venerable aspect. The well-selected seat of the monks is at present occupied by an elegant villa (?), commanding the first reach of the Tivy, with its bold scenery towards Kilgerran. Its present occupant is Mr. Bowen, a *Malkin, 1804, p. 410*

* Mr. David Griffith Davies, Castle Green, Cardigan.

very respectable gentleman, brother to the most assiduous agriculturalist in the county, the Rev. Mr. Bowen of Troedyraur. But this spot has attained a high celebrity, and cannot fail to interest every visitor, from the circumstance of its having been the residence of Orinda."

Mr. Bowen of Troedyaur was a pluralist and a very wealthy man.

Dugdale's "Monasticon Anglicanum"
(ed. 1817), Vol. IV. 584,
Benedictine cell of Cardigan,

states that "Near the east end of the Church of Cardigan stood the Priory, a small convent of black monks, cell to the abbey of Chertsey in Surrey. By whom it was founded we are not told; but it existed certainly as early as 1291." (Here in a note—"Prior de Kardigan habet in villa de Kardigan duas carucatas terra cum redditibus et aliis commoditatibus 2*l* 13*s*. 4*d*. Taxat P. Nich. IV. Meneven Dioc. p. 276 b.") Leland mentions it, in his time, as inhabited by two monks only (Leland, Itin., Vol. V. p. 14).

John Barnet was appointed prior of this house by the convent of Chertsey, in 1411. He resigned in 1434: when

John Thornbury succeeded (MS. Cole, Brit. Mus., Vol. XXVII., fol. 120 b.)

William* Hore was the last prior of Cardigan. He occurs in 1534 (MS. Cole as above). *Dugdale, 1817*

Tanner refers to Pat. 3 Hen. VI., Par. 1., m. 14, as relating to it. The whole revenues of this house, according to the Valor of the 26th Hen. VIII., amounted to 32*l.*; but, clear of reprises, to 13*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* only (See the Appendix, Number I.)

The site and possessions of this Priory were granted, as parcel of Chertsey, in the 29th Hen. VIII. to Bisham Abbey in Berkshire; and in the 31st Hen. VIII. to William Cavendishe (Orig. 31 Hen. VIII.); afterwards Sir William Cavendishe, by whom, in the 5th Edward VI., they were exchanged with that King, being then on lease to John Powell, gent. (See the extract from the Rental, Appendix, Number II.) From this time the Priorylands remained in the Crown until the 14th of James I., when they were granted to George Phelips, Esq., his heirs and assigns for ever. (See the extract from the Fee Farm Deeds, Augmentation Office, Appendix, Number III.)

By the Proceedings in Chancery, in the case of Lloyd and Johnes, it appears that in 1744 Thomas Pryse, Esq., being possessed of the Gogerthan and Priory estates here, devised the same by will to trustees for a long term of years upon trust, to sell for payment of debts, and subject thereto to his son, John Pugh Pryse, for life, and afterwards entailed them strictly upon his issue. Thomas Pryse died in

Dugdale June, 1745, leaving John Pugh Pryse, an infant, his only child, and leaving a widow, who afterwards married Mr. John Lloyd. John Pugh Pryce died a bachelor in 1774; and, after his death, the Priory estate was sold, with the residue of the term of seven hundred years, to Thomas Johnes, Esq. (Meyrick's "Cardigan," p. 103), the father of the late Thomas Johnes, Esq. of Hafod, the translator of Froissart. The last Mr. Johnes disposed of this estate some years ago to the late Marquis of Lansdowne; but the purchase not being completed, it was sold to Richard Hart Davies, Esq., the present owner. (See "Beauties of England and Wales," Vol. XVIII., p. 538.)

No *seal* of this house has hitherto fallen in the way of the Editors of the "Monasticon."

An elegant modern mansion at present occupies the site of this Priory.

Cell of Cardigan (continued)

Number II.

(Extracts from Rental 5 Edw. VI., Augm. Office.)

A Rental of all and singular the landes, tenements, and hereditaments of Sr Will'm Cavendyshe, knight, whiche the saide Sr Will'm Cavendyshe doth exchange with the king's maiestie, lyeng in the countie of Hertf. and elleswhere, made and renewed the twenty and nyneth day of September in the fifte yere of the reigne of o^{r} sovereigne lorde King Edward the sixte.

The Scyte of the late Priory, Celle or Personage of Cardigan in Sowthe Wales. *Dugdale*

	£.	s.	d.
Item of John Powell, gent. personage or Cardigan in Sowth Wales, with all edifices and buyldings, and with all maner landes, tenementes and hereditaments, together with all tithes, oblacions, emoluments, and profittes belonging to the same (except all advousonnes) letten to hym by indenture bearing date the 16th day of November in the thirde yere of the reigne of King Edward the Sixt, to have and to holde from the feaste of Seincte Michell tharchaungell last before the date of the same indenture unto thend and terme of 21^{ti} yeres, paing therefore yerely - - -	33	6	8

per me Willm Cavendyssh

Number III.

(Extract from Fee Farm Deeds, Augmentation Office)
Cardigan.

The said late king James, by his letters patents under the greate seale of England bearing date the eight and twentith daie of June in the fowerteenth yeare of his reigne, did graunt to George Phelips, Eq. his heires and assignes, in fee farme for ever all that

the late priory, cell and rectory of Cardigan, with theire rights, members and appurtenances whatsoever; and all that howse, seite, circuite and precinct of the said late priory, cell, and rectory of Cardigan, and all howses, edifices, structures, dovehowses, orchards, pomaries, gardens, land, soyle, and all messuages, landes, tenements, meadows, leazures, pastures, feedings, woods, underwoods, mills, piscaries and hereditaments, with the appurtenances whatsoever as well within as without the seite, circuite, and precinct ot the same late priory, cell and rectory of Cardigan, demised, accepte knowne, reputed, or occupied as part or parcell of the possessions of the aforesaid late priory, cell, and rectory of Cardigan aforesaid, or of any of them; and all and singular tythes, fruites, oblacions, obvencions, pencions, porcions, annuities, rights, royalties, casualties, emoluments, and profitts to the said priory, cell, and rectory, or to any of them, in any wise belonging or apperteyning; and alsoe all those rectories and churches of Cardigan, Berwick otherwise Verwick and Tremeyne otherwise Tremayne, with theire rights, members and appurtenances whatsoever, in the county of Cardigan aforesaid, being parcell of the lands and possessions exchanged by Sir William Cavendish, knight, with the late King Edward the Sixt, and before parcell of the possessions of the said late pryory, cell, and rectory of Cardigan, or of any of them; and all and

all manner of howses, edifices, glebe lands, pencions, porcions, tithes, oblacions, obvencions, profitts, comodities, emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever to the same rectories and churches of Cardigan, Berwick otherwise Verwick, and Tremeyne otherwise Tremayne, or to any of them belonging and apperteyning, paying therefore yearly att the receipt of the Exchequer at Westminster, or to the hands of the bayliffs of the premises for the time being, att the feasts of Saint Michaell the Archangell and the Annunciacion of the Blessed Virgin Mary by equall porcions, for ever, the fee farme rent or yearly rent of thirtie fower poundes."

See also Dugdale's "Monasticon Anglicanum," Vol. I., p. 425, in account of Chertsey Monastery.

"John Cordrey, the Abbot of Chertsey, succeeded Parker. This Abbot, with fourteen monks, surrendered the monastery to the King July 6th, 1538, 29 Henry VIII., when they were translated together with the possessions of the Monastery (Cardigan also) to Bisham in Berkshire, the former convent of which had been previously dissolved, and a new foundation erected in it by the King. The favour of the King was, however, of short continuance. The new Abbot and his brethren were obliged to surrender the refounded Abbey of Bisham within twelve months, the same Abbot Cordrey signing the Act June 19, 1539. At the dissolution the revenues of the Abbey,

according to Speed, were valued at £744. 18. 6¾; according to Dugdale they were valued at £659. 15. 8¾, the former giving the gross rents, the latter the net."

"A small Priory of Black Monks at Cardigan was a cell to the monastery, which, as a part of Chertsey was granted to Bisham Abbey.

"The Abbot of Chertsey (Abbot Martin (1197) and the Convent granted the moiety of their tithes of six lordships for the use of travellers and the poor."

In the Harleian MS. 128

(Translation)

South Wales

(f. 7)

County of Cardigan within the diocese of St. Davids

"One finds the value of all and singular Rectories Churches Tithes Oblations, pensions, portions and other similar burdens in the aforesaid County among the Revenues of his Majesty the King with all and singular his deductions and abatements as is set forth in detail below

viz.

The official duties of John Osborne Auditor and William Wightman Receiver

A small part of the possessions formerly of the Monastery of Talley in the County of Carmarthen A fixed sum of

the third part of the Rectory of Barwyke, held by Edward ap Hoell and a further Residue appertaining formerly to the Priory of Cardigan per annum	viij£.
The Rectory of Llangoedmore held by Thomas Bruyn per Annum	lxvis.viijd.

College of Llandewibrevi

A pension arising from the Rectory of Llangybi	p.a. xxs.
A pension arising from the Rectory of Heywood	p.a. xxvjs.viijd.
A pension arising from the Rectory of Llanbadanodyn	p.a. xxvjs.vjiid.
A pension arising from the Rectory of Llanuwchaeron	p.a. xxs.
A pension arising from the Rectory of Llandynoll alias Carock	p. xxjs.viijd.
A pension arising from the Rectory of Cilcennin	p.a. xls.
A pension arising from the Rectory of Llanwenog	p.a. xls.
A pension arising from the Rectory of Tregaron	p.a xxs.

A pension arising from the Rectory of Iscard p.a. xls.

The sum total of the above in the aforesaid County xxv£.xiijs.iiijd.

Sum total of the Rectories and tithes pensions and portions in the Co. of Cardigan per annum xxv£.xiijs.iiijd.

(f. 8) Divers lands with Rectories and tithes at the same time held separate whose rents are not divided

a. Monasteries &c.

County of Cardigan Lands formerly belonging to Wm. Cavendyssh soldier

Amount of the Agreement for rent of the late Priory Cell or Rectory of Cardigan with all tithes oblacions and emoluments whatsoever appertaining to the same cell or Rectory delivered to John Powell xxxvj£vj.s.viijd.

Sum Total cclix£.xvs.iiijd.

There are no further mentions of Cardigan in the Harleian MSS.

Thomas Stevens in "Welshmen," first edition, *1901* states, p. 209, "The Benedictine was the first order to settle in Wales, establishing themselves successively (?) at Chepstow, Abergavenny, Monmouth, Goldcliff, Bassaleg, Usk, Ewiss Harold, Brecon, Monkton, Ewenny, Kidwelly, Cardiff, Llangenith, Llangwyn & Cardigan."

So far there is no trace of the spot where Christ's Church stood as mentioned in the examination of Prior Hore, nor is there any trace of St. Peter's de Castello, both of which Churches were served by the Benedictines from the Priory—though many bones were dug up years ago to the north end of the Castle; they were not, however, examined at the time, so that there is nothing to prove whether it was the old Churchyard of St. Peter's Church that was disturbed, or only some of those who fell in the many fights around the Castle.

CHAPTER XI

FTER this book was in type the abstracts already given from Hart's "Hist. et Cart. Gloucestriæ," in the addendum to Chapter II., suggested a further application to Gloucester Cathedral, resulting in the translation of the four following documents found there, from the contracted Latin in which they are written, namely:

The Charter of Gilbert, Earl of Hereford (the Gilbert de Clare who died 1114).

The Confirmation by Bernard, Bishop of St. David's, of Gilbert FitzRichards' gift of Cardigan to St. Peter's of Gloucester.

The Charter of Roger de Clare, Earl of Hereford, concerning the gift of Cardigan Church, in his letter to Theobald, Primate of England.

The Restitution of the Church of Cardigan by Theobald of Canterbury to St. Peter's of Gloucester.

A visit to Lampeter Library resulted in the discovery of a reference to a letter in the Cotton MSS.,

Cleopatra E. IV., f. 117, in the British Museum, written by Barlow, Bishop of St. David's, to Thomas Cromwell, Lord Privy Seal, relating, amongst other matters, to the Lady of the Burning Taper. (Bishop Barlow, formerly Abbot of Bisham, a most important personage, the validity of Anglican orders was transmitted through him.)

Abstracts from the Records in the Muniment Room of Gloucester Cathedral

Charter of Gilbert, Earl of Hereford (*sic*), concerning the Church of Cardigan. *About A.D. IIII*

Gilbert Earl of Hereford to all his barons and liegemen French and English greeting. Know that I have given and conceded to the Abbot of Gloucester and to all the convent of the church of Saint Peter my church of Cardigan together with all the things belonging to the same church in alms for the soul of my father, and for the souls of my ancestors; wherefore I so will and firmly command that they hold it quietly and freely as in free alms; Witnesses: Humphrey fitz Count, Adam fitz Warin, Stephen de Chameis, Robert Pincerna and many others (given at) Clare. (No date.)

The CONFIRMATION by BERNARD Bishop of St. DAVIDS.

Before A.D. 1114 BERNARD by the grace of God bishop of the church of St. Davids To the Lords, his Archdeacon, and all others attached to the church of St. Davids, health and blessing.

Know that I by the concession and presentation of Earl Gilbert fitz Richard have conceded and by my episcopal authority have confirmed to the Abbot and monks of Gloucester the church of the Holy Trinity of Cardigan, with lands, tithes and all things pertaining to it, all which Edward the Presbyter held and we have freed the same Edward from the cure of the same and have given the advowson of the said church to the said monks and have inducted them into the same church, with the benedictions of God and ours. And we have conceded to them full authority and lordship, saving only our episcopal dignity. And if any one under my authority wishes to give any church tithes, or any other ecclesiastical possessions to the said monks I hereby give them the power of doing so and the church of Gloucester the power of receiving the same. With the blessing of God and our own. Farewell.

Charter of Roger de Clare, Earl of Hereford, concerning the Confirmation of the gift of Cardigan Church. *A.D. 1147 to A.D. 1157*

To T. (Theobald) by the grace of God archbishop Primate of England and Legate of the Apostolic See Roger de Clare Earl of Hereford, greeting. I make known to you that the Abbot and monks of Chertsey before my first coming into my land of Wales came to me and shewed me that I had a certain church at Cardigan dedicated to the Holy Trinity which they asserted they ought jnstly to have and which was then vacant. I deeming that it was, as they shewed me, conceded to them the church and confirmed my Charter. Afterwards came the monks of Gloucester shewing me deed of gift and confirmation of my brother and my ancestors, and pleading for my charter of gift and confirmation as they had them from my ancestors. Wherefore I command and require you that if the abbot of Chertsey or the monks come to you and require a confirmation of the said church that it in no wise be done for them; nor let there be any impediment to the monks of Gloucester possessing it as is just. For I am unwilling to put any hindrance to the gifts which my ancestors gave in their times in pure alms. And if anything was done before the monks of Gloucester came into my presence with their deeds it shall not stand. (No date.)

Restitution of the Church of Cardigan by T. Archbishop. (In red ink.)

About A.D. 1147 to A.D. 1157

T.* by the Grace of God archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of England and legate of the Apostolic see, to David† by the same grace bishop of St. Davids, Greeting. We would have our fraternity know that the abbot and monks of Chertsey came with false suggestion to Roger, earl of Hereford before his first (?) Lord lieutenaney in Wales urging that he had in his gift a certain church at Cardigan, namely the church of the Holy Trinity which at that time, as they asserted, was vacant, and which, they said justly belonged to them. The aforesaid Earl therefore giving credence to their statement and listening favourably to their entreaties, confirmed the said church to them by his deed and seal. Later on however came the monks of Gloucester, declaring the illegality of the whole transaction and laying before him the deed of gift to them of his brother, and the confirmation of it by Bernard‡ our venerable brother, and your predecessor. Whereupon they besought him that he would at once re-confirm the donation and confirmation of his ancestors. The Earl now realizing the falsehoods of the monks of Chertsey, and their exposure by the monks of

* Theobald or Thomas à Becket. † David Fitzgerald.

‡ Bernard was the last Bishop of St. Davids. The primacy of Wales then passed to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Gloucester made restitution; and assuring us of his regret, implored us to revoke his gift and give commands to our fraternity to that effect. Wherefore we bid you on no occasion to receive the monks of Chertsey into the said church and if they or any others, on behalf of them, venture to intrude ye are to eject them. And ye are to reinstate the said monks into the aforesaid church of the Holy Trinity and all that pertains to it without any contradiction or vexation. We also having seen the authentic deeds of confirmation of King Henry, of Bishop Bernard, and Earl Gilbert fitz Richard, have confirmed the said church to the monks of Gloucester by the authority vested in me.

Cotton MSS., Cleopatra E. IV., f. 117 (pencil 141).

Letter from Bishop Barlow to Thomas Cromwell Lord Privy Seal.

About A.D. 1536 to A.D. 1538

After my right humble commendacions the benevolente goodnes of your Lordship towarde me apperceaved both by your Lordships lettres and by relacion of Mr. Doctor Barnes concernynge soch sommes of moneye as I am yndebted to the Kynges highnes favorably to be respited though I can not in this nor in other your manyfold benefites condigly make recompensacion, yet the litle that I maye to the uttermost of my pore possibilitye my unfayned ende-

vour shall not fayle faythfully to performe. Concernynge your Lordships lettres addressed for the taper of Haverforde West yer the receyte of theme I had done reformacion and openly detected the abuse thereof all parties which before tyme repugned penitently reconcyled But sythene I chaunced upon a nother taper of moch greater credyte and of more shamefull detestacion called Our Ladyes taper of Cardigane which I have sente here to your Lordship with convenyent instructyons of that develish delusyone.

Forthermore where I admonished the canons of Sainte Davids accordinge to the Kynges injunctions in no wyse to set forth fayned reliques for to allure people to supersticion nether to advaunce the vague observacion of unnecessary holy dayes abrogated by the Kynges supreme authoritye on Sainte Davids daye the people wilfully solemnysinge the feest, certene reliques were set forth which I caused to be sequestred and takene awaye detaynynge theme in my custody untill I maye be advertised of your Lordships pleasour.

The parcels of the reliques are these two heedes of Sylver plate enclosinge two rottene skulles stuffed with putrified clowtes Item two arme bones and a worme eaten boke covered with sylver plate. Off the canons slumbringe negligence towarde the preferment of Gods worde and what ane ungodly disguysed

sermone was preached in the cathedrall church in the feest of Ynnocentes last passed they being presente with ane auditory of iij or iiij hundred persons this bearer a mynister of the same church shall forder declare havynge parte of the said sermone in writynge apparente to be showed. Forthermore though I myght seme more presumptuous thene neadeth to mocion any sute for the translacion of the See frome St. Davids to Kermerddyne yet my good Lorde the just equyte therof and expedyente utilytie enforceth me so to presume consyderynge that a better deade for the comene wealth and dew reformacion of the whole mysordered Dyocesse can not be purposed as well for the preferremente of Gods worde as for the abolyshinge of all Antichristiane supersticion and therin the Kynges supreme majestie to be Amplyfied with the unyversall commoditye of hys graces subjectes their reseaunte annoyenge none with discommoditye except perchaunce foure or fyve persons will surmyse their pryvate pleasour to be anoyed yn profetinge the comone wealth And the cause partlye that moveth me thus with importune instance to be urgente in my sute ys the over sumptuous expenses that the Canons have interprysed in reedifyenge the body of theyr cathedrall church which yer it will be fully fynished will utterly consume the small resydew of the church treasure remayninge in their custody without any profytable effecte savinge

to norysh clatteringe conventycles of barbarous rurall persons the deformed habitacions of the pore collegyans in soch beggerly ruyne and so wrechedly decayed that honestye will abhorre to beholde theme which to remedy pleaseth the Kynges highnes of his gracyous bountye to graunte the grey freres place at Kermeddyne where his most noble progenytor and graundefather lyeth honorably entiered licensynge the See thydder to be translated which (his graces pleasour condescendynge) may be performed withoute any chargeable difficultie And not only the pore collegyans but also the Canons resydentiaryes myght be there pleasantly enhabited with haboundant provisione of all necessarye commodities contynually havinge oportune occasion to profite the Kynges subjectes where as at St Davids lurkynge in a desolate corner they that be best mynded can do veraye litle good in case they wold savynge to theme selves And concernynge the Freres that they nether shuld be agreved with any prejudice I dowte not but under the Kynges highnes favour of soch preferrementes as I have of his graces sufficiently to provyde for every one of theme that shalbe founde ane able mynister of Christes church in competente lernynge and honest conversacion. Moreover the sayed towne of Kermerddyne beinge the most frequented place and indifferently situate in the myddle of the dyocesse I myght there (and God willynge so I wolde) settle my

contynuall consistory assisted with lerned persons maynteynynge a Fre gramer scole with a dayly lecture of Holy Scripture where by Gods honour princypally preferred the Welsh rudenes decreasynge Christian civilitye may be introduced to the famous renowne of the Kynges supremytye whose princely majestye Almightye Jesu preserve with your good Lordships.

From Kermerddyne the last day of March.

Yo^{r} Lordshyppes to command

W. Meneven.

(Addressed) To the Right honorable
and my synguler good
Lorde my Lorde privey
seale

APPENDIX

Patent Roll (416) 3 Hen. VI., Part 1, m. 14.

De confirmacione pro Abbate et Monachis de Certeseya } Rex Omnibus ad quos &c. salutem Inspeximus litteras patentes carissimi domini et patris nostri Regis defuncti tempore quo erat Princeps Wallie factas in hec verba Henricus illustris Regis Anglie et Francie primogenitus Princeps Wallie Dux Aquitanie Lancastrie et Cornubie et Comes Cestrie Omnibus ad quos presentes littere pervenerint salutem Inspeximus litteras patentes domini Ricardi nuper Regis Anglie factas in hec verba Ricardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie Omnibus ad quos presentes littere pervenerint salutem Inspeximus quoddam irrotulamentum factum coram Thoma de Bradestone nuper Justiciario carissimi patris nostri domini Edwardi nuper Principis Wallie in sessione sua apud Kermerdyne in Crastino Sancte Trinitatis Anno regni Regis Edwardi tercii nuper Regis Anglie avi nostri post Conquestum tricesimo tercio in hec verba Dominus Princeps mandavit litteram suam Justiciario suo in partibus Suth Wallie in hec verba Edwarde eisne fitz au noble Roy Dengleterre et de France Prince de Gales Duc de Cornewaille et Count de Cestre A nostre cher et foial Mons(eignur) Thomas de Bradestone nostre Justice de Southgales saluz Pour ces que le Priour de Cardygan sad pleint a nous que comment que

le Priour et le Covent de Cardygane teignont certeines terres et tenementz de nous en pure et perpetuelle aulmoigne par la chartre Ries le fitz Gryff' jadys Prince de Gales vous ne purquant lour destreignez de jour en autre de suite faire as Courtes et sessions celles parties contre le purport de la dite chartre a graunde damage et destruccione de eulx Si vous mandoms que vous faces examiner la chartre susdit et toutz les circumstances dicelle et sil teigne nulles autres terres pur quelles il doit seute faire et si la suite eit este fait de tout temps puis le Conquest ou nemy et solom ces que vous troverez facez sur ces droit et reason Donee soulz nostre prive seal a Loundres le tierce jour de Juyn lan de regne nostre treschier seignur et piere le Roy Dengleterre trentisme tierce et de France vintisme Virtute cujus mandati inspecta et examinata est carta Resi filii Griffini quondam Principis Wallie in hec verba

Resus filius Gruffini Princeps Wallie Omnibus Christi fidelibus tam presentibus quam futuris ad quos presentes littere pervenerint salutem Sciatis me pro salute anime mee et pro animabus patris mei et matris mee et pro salute uxoris mee et filiorum meorum dedisse et concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Deo et Ecclesie Sancti Petri et Abbati et Monachis de Certeseya et eorum successoribus imperpetuum in liberam et puram et perpetuam elemosinam Cellam de Cardygan cum omnibus pertinenciis suis scilicet Ecclesiam Sancte Marie de Cardygan cum Capella Sancti Petri de Castello et cum duabus carucatis terre ad eam pertinentibus que jacent ab aquilonari parte vie que ducit versus Blaenporthe et Canclanas usque ad vadum Arthuri et cum terra extra cimiterium Ecclesie Sancte Marie de Burgagia facienda et cum omnibus pertinenciis Ecclesiam Sancti Petri de Berwike cum Capellis suis et dimidia carucata terre adjacente

et ad eam pertinente et cum omnibus pertinenciis Ecclesiam Sancte Trinitatis que dicitur Landov cum una carucata terre adjacente que est refugium ecclesie et cum omnibus pertinenciis suis decimas de molendinis et piscariis et de omnibus que decimari possunt infra parochias predictarum ecclesiarum decimas eciam de redditibus et de cibo et de potu de Castello de Cardygan et de omnibus que decimari possunt ut et ipsi et homines sui liberi sint et quieti ab omni accione seculari per totam terram meam Ita ut nichil alicui respondeant de aliquo nisi Sancte Ecclesie Et ut ipsi et homines sui habeant et teneant et possideant eandem libertatem in omnibus quam ego et homines mei habemus in bosco et plano in pratis pascuis et pasturis in aquis et molendinis infra Burgum et extra in omnibus rebus et in omnibus locis Hujus donacionis et concessionis testes sunt Dominus Walterus Abbas Sancte Marie de Cameys Magister Matheus clericus S(t)ephanus Capellanus Trahern filius Rodin Mailgun et Gruffinus filii Domini Resi Principis Hengeuereit Constabularius Willelmus Wallensis Johannes Prepositus Turstanus filius ejus Lambertus de Floundres Walterus Palmarus Cradoc Presbiter Silbrutus de Bristowe Willelmus Parmentarius Jordanus Coterell Alfredus Palmarus Johannes et Robertus filii Milesont Robertus filius Louredi Philippus frater ejus et multi alii Qua inspecta et examinata Inquisicio capta est per sacramentum Thome Coit Willelmi Cist Johannis Gyby Johannis Coit Johannis Dounyng Johannis Waddyng Johannis Laurence Johannis Duy Johannis Taillour Johannis Spert Johannis ap Eignone et Johannis Stevene et onerati si predictus Prior aliqua alia terras seu tenementa tenet ultra ea que continentur in carta predicta et si ipse Prior seu predecessores sui plura terras seu tenementa adquisierunt pro quibus sectam ad Curias et sessiones Justiciariorum in

partibus Sut Wallie facere debent vel a tempore conquestus facere solebant Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod nullas tenet terras seu tenementa pro quibus sectam ad Curias seu ad sessiones facere debet nec ipse nec predecessores sui a tempore conquestus de jure facere solebant quia dicunt quod tenet omnia terras et tenementa sua in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam Ideo concessum est quod predictus Prior nec successores sui decetero pro secta predicta facienda non distringantur occasionentur molestentur seu graventur Salvo jure domini Principis In cujus rei testimonium huic exemplificacioni sigillum Cancellarie nostre de Kermerdyn apponi fecimus Datum apud Kermerdyn xx die Augusti anno regni nostri sexto Nos autem irrotulamentum donacionem et concessionem predicta rata hebentes et grata eaque pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est acceptamus approbamus ratificamus Abbati et Monachis nunc et successoribus suis confirmamus prout littere predicte racionabiliter testantur In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes Datum sub sigillo nostro in Castro nostro de Cardygane tercio die Novembris Anno regni dicti metuendissimi domini nostri Regis et patris Henrici quarti post Conquestum nono Nos autem irrotulamentum donacionem et concessionem predicta minime revocata de avisamento et assensu dominorum spiritualium et temporalium ac Communitatis regni nostri Anglie in parliamento nostro apud Westmonasterium Anno regni nostri primo tento existencium approbamus ratificamus et confirmamus prout littere predicte racionabiliter testantur In cujus etc.

Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xxij die Novembris (1424)
per breve de privato sigillo

Patent Roll (424) 7 Hen. VI., Part 1, m. 17.

De confirmacione pro Johanne Abbate de Certeseye } Rex Omnibus ad quos &c. salutem Inspeximus litteras patentes domini Edwardi nuper Principis Wallie factas in hec verba Edwardus illustris Regis Anglie et Francie primogenitus Princeps Wallie Dux Cornubie et Comes Cestrie Omnibus ad quos presentes littere pervenerint salutem Cartam donacionis concessionis et confirmacionis bone memorie Resi filii Griffini Principis Wallie nuper inspeximus in hec verba Resus filius Griffini Princeps Wallie Omnibus Christi fidelibus tam presentibus quam futuris ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit salutem Sciatis me pro salute anime mee et pro salute uxoris mee et filiorum meorum dedisse concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse Deo et Ecclesie Sancti Petri et Abbati et Monachis de Certeseya et eorum successoribus imperpetuum in puram liberam et perpetuam elemosinam Ecclesiam de Cardigan cum omnibus pertinenciis suis scilicet Ecclesiam Sancte Marie de Cardigan cum Capellis Sancti Petri de Castello et cum duabus carucatis terre ad eam pertinentibus que jacent ab aquilionari parte vie que ducit versus Bleynporthe et Cantlanas usque ad vadum Arturi et cum terris extra cimiterium Ecclesie Sancte Marie ad Burgagie facienda et cum omnibus pertinenciis Ecclesiam Sancti Petroci de Berwyke cum Capellis suis et dimidia carucata terre adjacente et ad eam pertinente et cum omnibus pertinenciis suis Ecclesiam Sancte Trinitatis que dicitur Landov cum una carucata terre

adjacente que est refugium ecclesie et cum omnibus pertinenciis suis decimas de molendinis de piscariis et de omnibus que decimari possunt infra parochias predictarum ecclesiarum decimas eciam de redditibus et de cibo et de potu de Castello de Cardigan et de omnibus que decimari possunt et ut ipsi et homines sui sint liberi et quieti ab omni exaccione seculari per totam terram meam ita ut nichil alicui respondeant de aliquo nisi Sancte Ecclesie et ut ipsi et homines sui habeant et teneant et possideant eandem libertatem in omnibus quam ego et homines mei habemus in bosco et plano in pratis et pascuis et pasturis in aquis et molendinis infra Burgum et extra cum omnibus rebus et in omnibus locis Hujus donacionis et concessionis testes sunt Dominus Walterus Abbas Sancte Marie de Kemeys Magister Matheus clericus Stephanus Capellanus Trahern filius Redyn Mailgon et Griffinus filii domini Resi Principis Henguerethe constabularius Willelmus Wallensis Johannes Prepositus Turstanus filius ejus Lambertus de Flandres Walterus Palmarius Cradec presbiter Aylbrutus de Bristowe Willelmus Parmentarius Jordanus Coterell Alfredus Palmarius Johannes et Robertus filii Milcent Robertus filius Leuredy Philippus frater ejus et multi alii Nos autem donaciones concessiones et confirmaciones predictas ratas habentes et gratas pro nobis et heredibus nostris dilectis nobis in Christo Abbati et Monachis de Certeseye predictis et eorum successoribus in puram et perpetuam elemosinam concedimus et confirmamus habendum percipiendum et tenendum omnia predicta pacifice et quiete imperpetuum adeo integre et plene sicut hactenus plenius habuerunt licet ipsi et predecessores sui predictis libertatibus in parte antea usi non fuerint aliquo casu emergente In quorum omnium testimonium presentes litteras

nostras sigillo Cancellarie nostre Suth Wallie sigillatas Abbati et Monachis supradictis ad instanciam et sectam dilecti nobis in Christo Fratris Johannis de Whitele Prioris dicte Celle de Cardigan fieri fecimus has (litteras nostras) patentes Datum apud Cardigan primo die Julii Anno Principatus nostri septimo Nos autem litteras predictas ratas habentes et gratas eas pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est acceptamus approbamus et dilectis nobis in Christo Johanni nunc Abbati de Certeseye et ejusdem loci Conventui concedimus et confirmamus prout littere predicte racionabiliter testantur In cujus etc. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium xix die Novembris (1428) pro viginti solidis solutis in hanaperio

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Cotton MS. Vitellius A xiii. *British Museum*

Privilegium Alexandri pape III quod dedit Abbati et Conventui de Certes(eya) de Prioratu de Cardigan *fo. 75 b.*

Alexander Episcopus servus servorum Dei dilectis filius Conventui Monasterii Sancti Petri de Cherteseya salutem et apostolicam benediccionem Justis petencium desideriis dignum est nos facilem prebere consensum et vota que aracionis tramite non discordant effectu prosequente complere Ea propter dilecti in Domino filii vestris postulacionibus grato concurrentes assensu subscriptas Ecclesias et possessiones canonice vobis collatas sicut eas pacifice possidetis vobis et per vos Monasterio vestro auctoritate apostolica confirmamus et presentis scripti patrocinio communimus

Quas utique propriis vocabulis duximus exprimendas Prioratum de Cardigan cum pertinenciis suis Ecclesiam Sancte Trinitatis que appellatur Lando cum pertinenciis suis Capellam Sancti Petri de Cardigan cum pertinenciis suis Ecclesiam Sancti Michaelis de Tresmaun cum pertinenciis suis Decimaciones quas habetis in singulis redditibus domini loci scilicet Molendinis et aquis et Terras eciam quas habetis in bosco et plano predicti domini Decernimus ergo ut nulli omnino hominum liceat vos vel Monasterium vestrum temere perturbare aut possessiones vestras auferre vel ablatas retinere minuere seu quibuslibet indebitis molestiis fatigare aut hanc paginam mostre confirmacionis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit indignacionem Omnipotentis Dei et beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum ejus se noverit incursurum Datum Tusculan' xvi Kalendarum Augusti

(Pontificate 1159–1181)

fo. 72. Privilegium Alexandri pape quarti de possessionibus et aliis bonis Ecclesie Sancti Petri Certes' et Ecclesie Sancte Marie de Cardigan

Alexander Episcopus servus servorum Dei dilectis filiis Abbati Monasterii Sancti Petri de Certeseya ejusque fratribus tam presentibus quam futuris regularem vitam eligentibus apostolicum convenit adesse presidium ne forte cujuslibet temeritatis incursus aut eos a proposito revocet aut robur quod absit sacre religionis infringat Ea propter dilecti in Domino filii vestris justis postulacionibus clementer annuimus et Monasterium Sancti Petri de Certeseya Wyntoniensis diocesis in quo divino estis obsequis mancipati sub beati

Letri et nostra protectione suscipimus et presentis scripti privilegio communimus. In primis siquidem statuentes ut ordo Monasticus qui secumdum Deum et beati Benedicti regulam in eodem Monasterio institutus esse dinoscimur perpetuis ibidem temporibus inviolabiliter observetur Preterea quascumque possessiones quecumque bona idem Monasterium in presenciarum juste ac canonice possidet aut in futurum concessione Pontificum largicione Regum vel Principum oblacione fidelium seu aliis justis modis prestante Domino poterit adipisci firma vobis vestrisque successoribus illibata permaneant In quibus hec propriis duximus exprimenda vocabulis Locum ipsum in quo prefatum Monasterium situm est cum omnibus pertinenciis suis Prioratum de Cardigan cum omnibus pertinenciis suis Ecclesiam sancte Trinitatis sitam in loco qui appellatur Lando cum omnibus pertinenciis suis Ecclesiam Sancti Petri de Berewyke cum omnibus pertinenciis suis Capellam Sancti Petri de Cardigan cum omnibus pertinenciis suis Capellam Sancti Michaelis de Tresman cum omnibus pertinenciis suis decimas quas habetis in locis qui Certeseya et Thorp nominantur Medietatem decimarum quam habetis in loco qui dicitur Egeham Medietatem decimarum in loco qui dicitur Chabeham Medietatum decimarum

Cunctis autem eidem loco sua jura servantibus sit pax Domini nostri Ihesu Christi quatinus et hic fructum bone actionis percipiant et apud districtum Judicem premia eterne pacis inveniant AMEN Amen Datum Anagnie per manum Magistri Jordani Sancte Romane Ecclesie Notarii et Vicecancellarii iii Nonas Aprilis Indictione II Incarnacionis Dominice Anno M°CC° Lviij° Pontificatus vero domini Alexandri pape quarti anno quinto.

A.D. 1535

"Valor Ecclesiasticus," Vol. IV. p. 393

Decanatus de Subayron
in Archidiaconatu Cardygan'

Prioratus Domus sive Cella Dive Marie Virginis de Cardygane in Comitatu Cardigan'

CARDYGAN'

Thomas Hore prior prioratus predicti monachus regule Sancti Benedicti ex donacione abbatis de Charsey tenet prioratum domus et edificia prioratui predicto spectancia infra territorium ville Cardigane ad quem spectant diverse terre tenementa et redditus in Tref Mayne Berwike et in villa et campis Cardigan' ad valenciam decem marcarum per annum ac ecclesiam parrochialem ville Cardigan' cum capella de Tref Mayne cum omnibus eorum emolumentis et proficuis et proficuis tercie partis ecclesie parrochialis de Barwike ad octo marcas clare per annum Et valent per annum ultra dictam terciam partem xxx marcas Summa valoris in toto trahit ad xxxij libras Inde deducti in quadam pensione annuatim soluta abbati de Chartesey predicta vj.*l.* xiij.*s.* iiij.*d.* Et in alia pensione annuatim soluta domino Morgano vicaris de Cardigan' in dicto officio annuatim exercendo x.*li.* Et in ordinaria visitacione quolibet tercio anno iij.*s.* iiij.*d.* Et in consimilibus denariis solutis in visitacione archidiaconi pro sinodalibus et procuracionibus dictarum ecclesiarum quolibet anno vij.*s.* xj.*d.* Et pro indempnitate annuatim soluta ad

ecclesiam cathedralem Menevensem pro appropriacione dictarum ecclesiarum iiij.*s.* Et in stipendio sive salario cujusdam senescalli infra hospicium predictum annuatim ut de feodo ibidem consueto xxvj.*s.* viij.*d.*

Et remanent clare . . . £xiij. iiij.*s.* ix*d.*
Inde decima xxvjs.v.d.ob.9

Vicaria ibidem ex collacione domini prioris de Cardigan' unde Morganus Mered(ith) est ibidem vicarius perpetuus Et annuatim de scaccariis dicti prioris in pecuniis pensio x. librarum

Inde soluti in visitacione ordinaria quolibet tercio anno xx.*d.* Et in visitacione archidiaconi quolibet anno pro sinodalibus et procuracionibus ij*s.* viij.*d.*

Et remanent clare . . . £ix. xv.*s.* viij.*d.*
Inde decima . . . . xix.*s.* vij.*d.*

CARDIGAN' CANTARIA

Cantaria ibidem fundata unde Nicholaus Harry clericus est inde magister et valet per annum clare in redditu £vj.

Inde decima . . . . . xij.*s.*

VARWYKE

Ecclesia ibidem in tribus partibus divisa videlicet una pars fructuum et emolumentorum ibidem spectat priori Cardigan' ad octo marcas annuatim superius in onere prioris oneratas secunda pars sive porcio spectat abbati de Talley tercia vero pars sive porcio spectat Owino Gr(yffyd) vicaris ibidem.

Et sic remanent clare in dictis duabus porcionibus . } £x. xiij.*s.* iiij.*d.*
Inde decima . . . . xxj.*s.* iiij.*d.*

ABERPORTH

Ecclesia ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Morganus Lowys est rector Et fructus et emolumenta hujus ecclesie communibus annis valent vj. libras Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno v.*s.* ix.*d.* Et in visitacione ordinaria quolibet tercio anno viij.*d.*

Et remanent clare . . . £v. xiij.*s.* vij.*d.*
Inde decima . . . . xj.*s.* iiij.*d.*ob.

BLAEN' PORTH PREBENDA

Ecclesia ibidem unde Johannes Vichan est inde prebendarius sub ecclesia collegiata de Llandewy Brevi ex collacione episcopi Menevensis valet communibus annis . £vj.

Inde decima . . . . . xij.*s.*

LLANGOIDMORE

Ecclesia ibidem ex collacione abbatis de Talley unde Hugo Mors est rector valet communibus annis xiij.*li.* vj*s.* viij.*d.*

Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno v.*s.* ix.*d.* Et in visitacione ordinaria ij.*s.*

Et remanent alare . . £xij. xviij.*s.* xj.*d.*
Inde decima . . . . xxv.*s.* x.*d.*9

PENBRYN

Ecclesia parrochialis ibidem appropriata monasterio de Talley valet per annum in fructibus et oblacionibus ultra porcionem vicarii clare communibus annis £xv. vj.*s.* viij.*d.* Tamen oneratur ad £xiij. vj.*s.* in compoto dicti abbatis inter alias ecclesias suas in monasterio &c.

PENBRYN

Vicaria ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Thomas Bagard legum doctor est vicarius valet in porcione sua communibus annis £xv. vj*s*. viij.*d*. Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno v.*s*. ix.*d*. Et in visitacione (ordinaria) quolibet tercio anno xij.*d*.

Et remanent clare . . . £xiiij. xix.*s*. xj.*d*.
Decima inde . . . . xxx.*s*.

GOGOFF

Vicaria ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde David Mered(ith) clericus valet communibus annis iiij. libras Inde pro sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno ij.*s*.

Et remanent clare. . . lxxviij.*s*.
Inde decima. . . . vij.*s*. ix.*d*.ob.9.

LLANLLONGHAIARNE

Ecclesia ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Griffinus David est inde rector habens ibidem mansionem et glebam et valet communibus annis fructus hujus ecclesie £vj. xiij.*s*. iiij.*d*. Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno v.*s*. ix.*d*.

Et sic remanent clare . . £vj. vij.*s*. vij.*d*.
Inde decima . . . xij.*s*. ix.*d*.9.

LLANUCHAIRON

Ecclesia ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde predictus Griffinus est prebendarius sub ecclesia collegiata de

Llandewy valet communibus annis lxvj.*s.* viij.*d.* Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus v.*s.* ix.*d.*

Et remanent clare . . . . lx.*s.* xj.*d.*
Inde decima . . . . . vj.*s.* j.*d.*9.

LLANARTH et LLANYNA

Vicaria ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde predictus Griffinus est vicarius valet in porcione sua per annum centum solidos Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno ij*s.*

Et remanent clare . . £iiij. xviij.*s.*
Inde decima . . . . ix.*s.* ix.*d.*ob.9.

HEWYDE PREBENDA

Prebenda ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Johannes Lowys clericus est prebendarius sub ecclesia collegiata de Llandewy et valet communibus annis vij libras Inde in pensione annuatim soluta dicto collegiato xxvj.*s.* viij.*d.*

Et remanent clare . . . £vj. xiij.*s.* iiij.*d.*
Inde decima . . . . . xiij.*s.* iiij.*d.*

BOTTONS BLEDROUS

Ecclesia ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Thomas Lloid est rector et valet communibus annis £iiij. xiij.*s.* iiij.*d.* Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno v.*s.* ix.*d.*

Et remanent clare . . . £iiij. vij.*s.* vij.*d.*
Inde decima . . . . . viij.*s.* ix.*d.*9.

KELLAN

Ecclesia ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Hugo ap David est rector et valet communibus annis Cxiij*s.* iiij*d.* Inde soluta in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno v*s.* ix.

Et remanent clare . . . . Cvij*s.* vij*d.*
Inde decima . . . . . x*s.* ix*d.*9.

LLANWONNEN

Vicaria ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde dominus Gr(iffinus) est vicarius et valet commuuibus annis lxvj*s.* viij*d.* Inde soluta in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno ij*s.*

Et remanent clare . . . . lxiiij*s.* viij*d.*
Inde decima . . . . . vj*s.* v*d.*ob.9.

LLANBEDER

Vicaria ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Morganus Vichan est vicarius et valet vicaria communibus annis £vj. xiij*s.* iiij*d.*

Inde decima . . . . . xiij*s.* iiij*d.*

LLANWENOK

Prebenda ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde Andreas Whitmey est prebendarius sub ecclesia collegiata de Llandewy Brevi valet communibus annis xviij libras Inde in sinodalibus et procuracionibus quolibet anno v*s.* ix*d.* Et in ordinaria visitacione quolibet tercio anno xij*d.*

Et remanent clare . . £xvij. xij*s.* xj*d.*
Inde decima . . . . xxxv*s.* iij*d.*ob.

LLANWENOK

Vicaria ibidem ex collacione episcopi Menevensis unde dominus Resus est inde vicarius valet communibus annis £viij.

Inde decima . . . . . xvj*s.*

(fo. 7)

Harleian MS. 128

SOUTH WALLIA

Comitatus Cardigan infra Diocesim Menevessen

Valor omnium et singularum Rectoriarum Ecclesiarum Decimarum Oblacionum Pencionum Porcionum ac aliorum consimilium in Comitatu predicto oneratorum inter Revenciones Regis Majestatis cum omnibus et singulis suis Deduccionibus et Reprisis prout inferius particulariter patet } Infra Officia Joh'is Osborne Auditoris & Will'i Wightman Receptoris.

Videlicet

Parcella possessionum nuper Monasterii de Talley in Com. Karmerden

Firma tercie partis Rectorie de Barwyke in tenura Edwardi ap Hoell et ulterius Residuum pertinens nuper Prioratui de Cardigan per Annum } viij. li.

Rectoria de llangoidmore in tenura Thome Bruyn per Annum lxvj*s.* viij*d.*

COLLEGIUM DE LLANTHEWIBREVIE

Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de llangeby per an^m^. xx*s*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de Heywode „ „ xxvj*s*. viij*d*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de llanbadernhoden „ „ xxvj*s*. viij*d*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de llanogharon „ „ xx*s*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de Blaneporth „ „ xxvj*s*. viij*d*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de llandynoll alias Carock „ „ xxvj*s*. viij*d*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de Kylkennon „ „ xl*s*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de llanvenock „ „ xl*s*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de Tresgaron „ „ xx*s*.
Pencis exeuns de Rectoria de Iscard „ „ xl*s*.
Summa totalis premissorum in Comitatu predicto } xxv.*li*. xiij.*s*. iiij.*d*.

(Summa) Totalis Rectoriarum et decimarum pencionum et porcionum in Comitatu Cardigan per Annum } xxv.*li*. xiij.*s*. iiij.*d*.

Diverse terre cum Rectoriis et Decimis insimul dimisse quarum Redditus non dividuntur *(fo. 8)*

Monasterium de Vala Regali in Com. Cestrie (then Strata florida)

Terre nuper Will'i Cavendyshe Militis

siones maris et duarum aquarum, sicut perambulavimus; et insuper medietatem magnae piscaturae, cum aliis piscariis, aquis, molendinis, pratis, atque pasturis, boscis, et silvis, atque omninus aliis rebus ad dictam ecclesiam pertinentibus, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, sicut aliqua elemosina melius et liberius dari val teneri potest; nihil mihi vel meis successoribus retinendo, nisi tantum orationes a monachis in dicto prioratu Deo servientibus. Concedo etiam omnes decimas de omnibus capellis pertinentibus ad Sanctum Paternum, et etiam oblationes quae deferuntur ad altare capellae meae in castello* meo. Absque ergo ulla consuetudine et demanda possideant perpetualiter prior et monachi de Sancto Paterno terram quae est inter Radian et Clarach, a mari
f. 138 usque fossatum Sancti Paterni, et sic deorsum per tarram quae vocata est terra Wymundi de Sancto Audoeno usque in Clarach, et totam aquam quae est inter me et† dictos monachos ad piscandum.

Do etiam eisdem ecclesiam de Cardigan‡ cum omnibus pertinentiis suis.

Omnes istas donationes ego et mei successores perpetuo defendemus contra omnes gentes sigillo meo huic cartae meae apposito.

Testes sunt dominus Bernardus episcopus de Sancto David.§

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* *Castello.* In the MS. the "s" in this word has been inserted subsequently.

† *Me et.* Interlined in MS.

‡ *Cardigan.* After this word there is a slight erasure in the MS.

§ This clause is obviously incomplete.

DXLVIII. De eodem.

Ricardus filius Gilberti, omnibus hominibus suis, Francis et Anglis et Walensibus, salutem. *Of the same*

Sciatis quod ego concessi Deo, at Sancto Petro, et monachis de Gloucestria, pro salute animae meae, et antecessorum meorum, omnia quae pater meus Gilebertus dedit, eis, soluta et quieta et libera ab omni servitio ei consuetudine perpetualiter possidenda; scilicet ecclesiam Sancti Paterni, et omnia quae ad eam pertinent, videlicet terram quae est inter Radian et Clarach, a mari usque ad fossatum Sancti Paterni, et sic deorsum per terram quam dedi Wymundo de Sancto Audoeno usque in Clarach, et totam aquam quae est inter me et ipsos ad piscandum; et decimas de dominio meo omnium rerum quae pertinent ad castellum meum de Sancto Paterno, scilicet annonae venationis, porcorum vitulorum agnorum, piscium, caseorum, lanae, molendinorum, pasnagii; et capellam ejusdem castelli cum rebus quae ad eam pertinent; et terram in praedicto castello ad hospitium suum faciendum. Et insuper dedi eis, pro anima patris mei, et super altare Sancti Paterni per cultellum Humfridi filii Goismeri misi, partem meam molendini quod ipsi fecerunt super Redian, et hospitium cum horto in Stratinouric.*

Hujus donationis testes sunt Robertus capellanus.†

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* *Stratinouric.* In the MS. the second letter of this word has been interlined.

† This clause is obviously incomplete.

DXLIX. De eodem.

Of the same

Sciant praesentes et futuri, quod ego Ricardus filius Gilberti concedo et confirmo donationem quam fecit Robertus de Bardevilla Deo, et Sancto Petro de Gloucestria, et monachis de Sancto Paterno perpetualiter de firmanda exclusa molendini sui de Clarach super terram suam, hac conventione, quod praedicti monachi concedunt ei societatem, et orationes, et beneficia ecclesiae suae, et ex caritate temporali ei dederunt decem solidos, et du suo proprio molituram quietam, ita quod nullum expectet nisi propriam annonam monachorum quantacunque fuerit apud castellum de Stratinouric die decollationis Sancti Johannis Baptistae. Hiis testibus.

DL. De eodem.

Of the same

c. 138b

R(icardus) filius G(ilberti), omnibus baronibus suis atque ministris Francigenis, Anglis, et Walensibus, salutem.

Volo et firmiter praecipio ut monachi de Sancto Paterno teneant terras suas,* et silvas, atque aquas, solutas et quietas, bene et in pace, ab omni calumnia. Et nemo sit tam ausus ut ingrediatur in ipsas silvas ad secandas eas, vel ad capiendum

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* *Suas.* Sua, MS.

quicquam, sine licentia eorum, neque cum canibus, neque cum retibus, vehementer prohibeo super forisfacturam mean. Valete.

DLI. De eodem.

Of the same

Consideratum est coram domino Ricardo filio Gisleberti quod Johannes de Lecche cum parochia sua veniat ad quatuor festivitates anni ad Sanctum Paternum matrem ecclesiam suam. Et Johannes habeat tertiam partem tam oblationis parochianorum suorum quam sepulturae, et ipse et suus clericus ea die procurabuntur. Et monachi tertiam partem decimae parochianorum Johannis habeant. Et post obitum Johannis habeant monachi capellam et omnia quae tenuit Johannes in vita sua, sicut consideratum et confirmatum fuit coram episcopo Bernardo de Sancto David, et Ricardo filio Gilberti, et aliis probis viris in dedicatione ecclesiae Sancti Paterni.

DLII. De eodem.

A.D. 1115-1147

Of the same

Henricus, rex Angliae, et dux Normanniae et Aquitaniae, comes Andegaviae, venerabili viro Bernardo, Sancti David episcopo, et omnibus fidelibus suis, Francis, et Anglis, et Walensibus, de Suthwallia, salutem.

Sciatis me concessisse, et ista carta mea firmiter confirmasse, monachis Gloucestriae, prioratum de Sancto Paterno,

cum eadem ecclesia, et omnibus quae ad eam pertinent, scilicet cum capellis, et decimis, molendinis, piscaturis, in boscis, et in silvis; et ecclesiam Sanctae Trinitatis de Kardigan cum omnibus quae ad eam pertinent, secundum quod cartae Gileberti, filii Ricardi, et Ricardi, filii Gileberti, continent. Unde firmiter praecipio ut nullus molestet dictos monachos super decem libras forisfacturae. Et monachi de Gloucestriae apud Sanctum Paternum commorantes dictas elemosinas ita pure et libere teneant sicut aliqua elemosina perpetuo melius et liberius teneri potest.

Teste Ricardo Pictavensi archidiacono, etc.

DLIII. De eodem.

A.D. 1147-1176 David * Dei gratia Menevensis episcopus, omnibus tam clericis quam laicis per dyoecesim suam constitutis, salutem et benedictionem.

Of the same Notum sit vobis quod concedimus, et episcopali auctoritate confirmamus, donationes et elemosinas quas Gilebertus filius Ricardi et filius ejus Ricardus dederunt ecclesiae Sancti Petri et monachis Gloucestriae; scilicet ecclesiam Sancti Paterni cum pertinentiis suis, videlicet terram quae est inter duas aquas Redion et Clarach, a mari usque ad fossatum Sancti Paterni et sic deorsum per terram quae data est *f. 139* Wymundo de Sancto Audeono usque in Clarach, et piscariam in Radion, et capellam cum rebus omnibus quae ad eam pertinent, et decimationes annonae, venetionis, porcorum

* David Fitzgerald.

vitulorum, agnorum, piscium, caseorum, lanae, molendinorum, pasnagii, et partem molendini quod ipsi fecerunt super Radion, et hospitium cum horto in Stramouric.

DLIV. De eodem.

David, Dei gratia Menevensis episcopus, omnibus tam clericis quam laicis per dyoecesim suam constitutis, salutem et benedictionem. *A.D. 1175 Of the same*

Causam venerabilium fratrum nostrorum abbatis et monachorum Gloucestriae super ecclesia Sancti Paterni, quam quidam tempore hostilitatis* ipsis abstulerunt, et aliquantis temporibus injuste detinuerunt occupatam, a domino et patre Summo Pontifice Alexandro nobis delegatam suscepimus cognoscendam, et fine debito, appelatione non admissa, terminandam. Diligenter itaque veritate inquisita et cognita, tam ex autenticis scriptis eorum nobis per fratres suos Johannem et Philippum transmissis, quam ex unanimi attestatione totius capituli nostri, quoniam eadem occlesia ad monasterium jam dictorum fratrum de jure pertineret eandem† cum omnibus pertinentiis suis praefato monasterio Gloucestriae, capitulo nostro apud Sanctum David convocato, adjudicavimus. Nos ergo hanc adjudicationem‡ memoratis fratribus factam confirmantes sigilli

* *Hostilitatis.* Hostitalitatis in MS., but the sixth and seventh letters are marked with the sign of erasure.

† *Eandem.* Eadem, MS.

‡ *Adjudicationem.* Originally written advocationem, but subsequently altered.

nostri impressione communimus, ipsosque convocato capitulo nostro apud Sanctum David, in praescriptam ecclesiam instituimus.

Haec autem facta sunt anno ab Incarnationne Domini millesimo centesimo septuagesimo quinto.

Hiis testibus Pontio archidiacono.*

De eodem

Vol. I. f. 106

De Sancto Paterno in Walliæ

Anno Domini millesimo centesimo undecimo, Gilbertus filius Ricardi unus de præcipuis Angliæ principibus, dedit ecclesiæ Sancti Petri Gloucestriæ terram et ecclesiam Sancti Paterni in Wallia, et omnia quæ ad eam pertinent inter divisiones maris et duarum aquarum, et medietatem magnæ piscaturæ quam fecit, et decimas omnium rerum de suo dominio appendentium ad castellum suum de Penwediche.

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* This clause is obviously incomplete.

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